Government of Saskatchewan

Annual Report 2001-2002

Saskatchewan Justice

102-07003/

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LETTERS OF TRANSMITTAL

August 2002

Her Honour
The Honourable Dr. Lynda M. Haverstock
Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan

May it Please Your Honour:

I have the pleasure to transmit to your Honour the Annual Report of Saskatchewan Justice for the year ending March 31, 2002.

This annual report includes, for the first time, the Performance Plan for the Department of Justice. Our plan will evolve and improve over time. As part of this growth, performance measures and targets will be included in future plans.

Respectfully submitted,

The Honourable Chris Axworthy, Q.C.
Minister of Justice and Attorney General
Province of Saskatchewan

August 2002

The Honourable Chris Axworthy, Q.C.
Minister of Justice and Attorney General
Province of Saskatchewan

Dear Mr. Axworthy:

I have the honour of submitting for your consideration the Annual Report of Saskatchewan Justice for the year ending March 31, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

John D. Whyte
Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General
Government of Saskatchewan

DEPARTMENT RATIONALE & GOVERNING LEGISLATION

Saskatchewan Justice was established in May 1983 pursuant to *The Department of Justice Act*. The mandate of the Department of Justice flows from the historic and constitutional role of the Attorney General to uphold the rule of law, protect basic legal rights of citizens, and ensure good and proper administration of justice.

The mandate represents a significant responsibility and power. The exercise of this power must be highly principled and absolutely fair. The government itself is subject to the law and must operate in accordance with the law. One important aspect of this role is the provision of legal and policy services to government. This includes serving as the Government's official legal advisor and representing the Government before courts and tribunals, as well as advising departments and agencies in the development of legislative proposals and drafting all legislative instruments.

Effective justice services contribute to social stability, and by extension, contribute to a high quality of life for citizens. Justice services must be relevant, reflect the norms of the community and support a sound, healthy society. The justice system must provide effective enforcement of the criminal law, including the need to be tough on serious crime and the need for integrated, community-supported approaches in those situations where the offender can be effectively dealt with in the community. The justice system must provide effective mechanisms for resolving social conflict, and thereby ensure that people do not turn to socially destructive ways of dealing with their conflict. The justice system must also respond to the legal and social needs of people, particularly those in vulnerable circumstances and people involved in family disputes.

The justice system also plays a key regulatory function in the marketplace to safeguard consumer and public interests and support economic well-being.

VISION

A fair, equitable, and safe society supported by a justice system that is trusted and understood.

Mission

To promote safe communities, social and economic order, and just relations by:

- providing legal and policy services for government;
- providing mechanisms for resolving differences;
- fostering understanding and ownership of the justice system;
- ensuring appropriate enforcement of the law;
- creating an environment for rehabilitation;
- providing a framework for commercial transactions;
- promoting crime prevention and responding to the needs of victims; and
- working co-operatively to address adverse conditions that bring people into contact with the justice system.

Guiding Principles

Our actions are guided by our dedication to:

- fairness;
- accessibility;
- ethical behaviour;
- the rule of law;
- respect for individual and collective rights;
- social justice, including our responsibility to vulnerable people;
- respect for the independence of the partners that comprise the justice system; and
- respect for the cultural needs and values of Saskatchewan communities.

CORE VALUES

Service We believe in excellent service provided by knowledgeable, courteous and professional staff. This service:

- provides support to the justice system;
- contributes to the public's confidence in, and understanding of, the justice system;
- is responsive and sensitive to people's needs; and
- is accessible.

Quality of Work Life We believe in a high quality of work life in which we:

- share decision-making;
- demonstrate leadership;
- respect and communicate with each other;
- take personal initiative;
- have pride in our work;
- balance work and family;
- develop our skills and abilities; and
- have a safe and healthy work environment.

Diversity & Equality We respect and value diversity and equality by recognizing the individuality of each person.

Collaboration We believe in working together as a team and through consultation and partnership with communities and others.

Communication We believe in being open and honest while respecting privacy.

Accountability We are accountable for providing excellent service in the most cost-effective manner and ensuring the effective and innovative use of resources.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE

The Minister of Justice is ex-officio the Attorney General. The Minister of Justice and the Department of Justice are independent parties. *The Department of Justice Act* describes a broad statutory mandate for the Minister, including responsibilities to:

- be the legal member of the Executive Council;
- superintend the administration of justice in the province;
- see that public affairs are administered in accordance with the law;
- serve as the official legal advisor to the Lieutenant Governor; and
- provide legal advice to the government and conduct all litigation for or against the Crown.

The Minister does not get involved in specific cases or complaints. The Minister does not give direction to the courts, the police, or Crown prosecutors as to how a particular case should be handled. In cases of high public interest, the Minister may ask the police, prosecutor, or complaint agency for a report. The Minister may also order a public inquiry into matters of great public interest.

FUNCTIONS OF SASKATCHEWAN JUSTICE

The Minister of Justice has a broad mandate and is also responsible for a number of different areas including:

Administration and delivery of justice

- Prosecution of offences under the *Criminal Code*, the *Young Offenders Act*, and provincial statutes.
- Provision of civil legal services to the government.
- Provision of provincial policing services.
- Operation of the adult provincial corrections system.

- Operation of the Provincial Court, Court of Queen's Bench, and Court of Appeal (except for the appointment of superior court judges).
- Recognition and response to the needs of victims of crime.

Protection of basic legal rights and relationships

- Protecting and managing the estates of dependent adults or minors through the Public Guardian and Trustee.
- Operating the provincial coroners system.
- Registering and/or licensing all corporations and entities that conduct business in the province.
- Enforcement of maintenance orders.

Other Justice functions

- Regulating consumer and marketplace relations.
- Developing alternative mechanisms to resolve disputes outside the courts through legislative initiatives and education.
- Administration of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.
- Providing legal publications through the Queen's Printer Revolving Fund.
- Operation of the Marriage Unit.

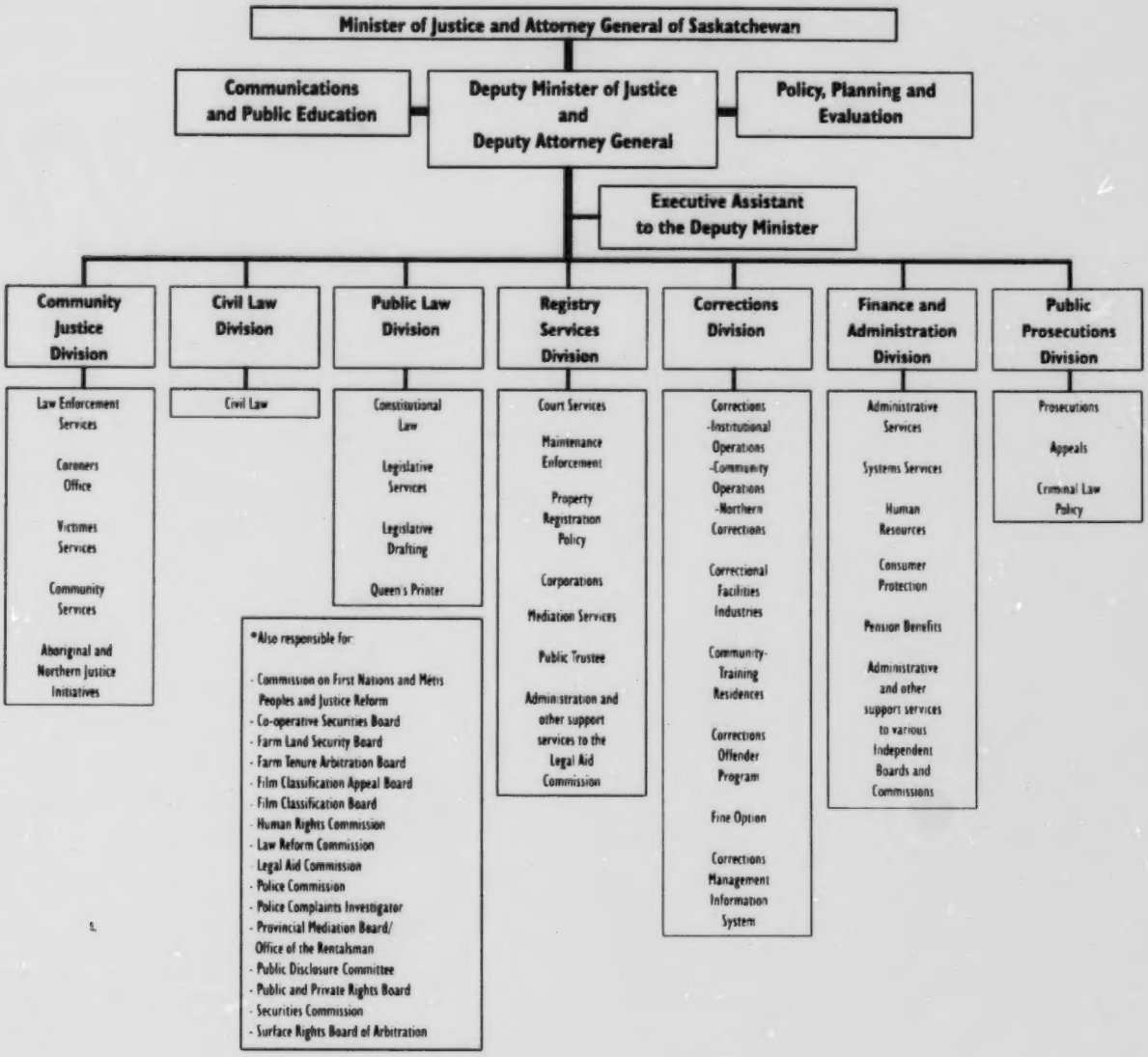
BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

The Minister of Justice is responsible for a number of boards and commissions that receive varying levels of administrative and policy support from Saskatchewan Justice, including:

- Commission on First Nations and Metis Peoples and Justice Reform;
- Co-operative Securities Board;
- Farm Land Security Board/Farm Ownership;
- Farm Tenure Arbitration Board;
- Film Classification Appeal Committee;
- Film Classification Board;
- Human Rights Commission;
- Law Reform Commission;
- Law Foundation of Saskatchewan;
- Office of the Rentalsman;
- Provincial Mediation Board;
- Public Disclosure Committee;
- Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission;
- Saskatchewan Police Commission;
- Saskatchewan Police Complaints Investigator;
- Saskatchewan Securities Commission; and
- Surface Rights Board of Arbitration.

SASKATCHEWAN JUSTICE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

as of March 31, 2002



THE STRATEGIC PLAN

THE STRATEGIC PLAN & ACCOUNTABILITY

Saskatchewan Justice initiated a strategic planning process in 1993 to identify and address the Department's needs and issues and create a strategic framework and focus for the Department. This resulted in the production of a Department Strategic Plan in February 1995. The Strategic Plan was reviewed in 1998, and changes were made that were adopted by the Department in 2001.

The Department identified five goals:

Safe Communities Preserve public order and personal safety, reduce crime, and protect the rights of people.

Aboriginal Justice The justice system responds to the needs and values of Aboriginal people and contributes to a more inclusive society.

Civil and Family Justice Conflicts are resolved in constructive and timely ways and the justice system responds to the needs of vulnerable people and persons involved in family disputes.

Marketplace Relations A fair and efficient marketplace.

Legal Services Uphold the rule of law and provide legal services that meet public needs.

EVALUATING OUR PERFORMANCE

Saskatchewan Justice is committed to identifying performance measures in order to determine the effectiveness of its programs in achieving these goals. Performance measures do two valuable things. First, citizens know whether the social goals for which expenditures were made were advanced and, therefore, whether the expenditures were fair ones to make. Second, when governments cannot do everything, performance measures help to identify the social tasks government is adept at performing and the tasks for which government is not the right agent.

The Department of Justice has a long history of seeking ways to evaluate its programs. With respect to the Aboriginal Justice Strategy there have been a number of evaluation reports: Aboriginal Justice Strategy Interim Report (February 1998); Review of First Nations Community Policing Agreements (May 1999); Saskatchewan Aboriginal Justice Strategy: The Origins, Rationale and Implementation Process: An Evaluation Report (January 2000); Police-Reported Aboriginal Crime in Saskatchewan (January 2000); and Saskatchewan Aboriginal Courtworker Program: Evaluation Report (August 2000). Other evaluations are pending respecting alternative measures programs, Aboriginal Resource Officer programs, Aboriginal family violence and urban Aboriginal crime prevention programs, and sentencing circles.

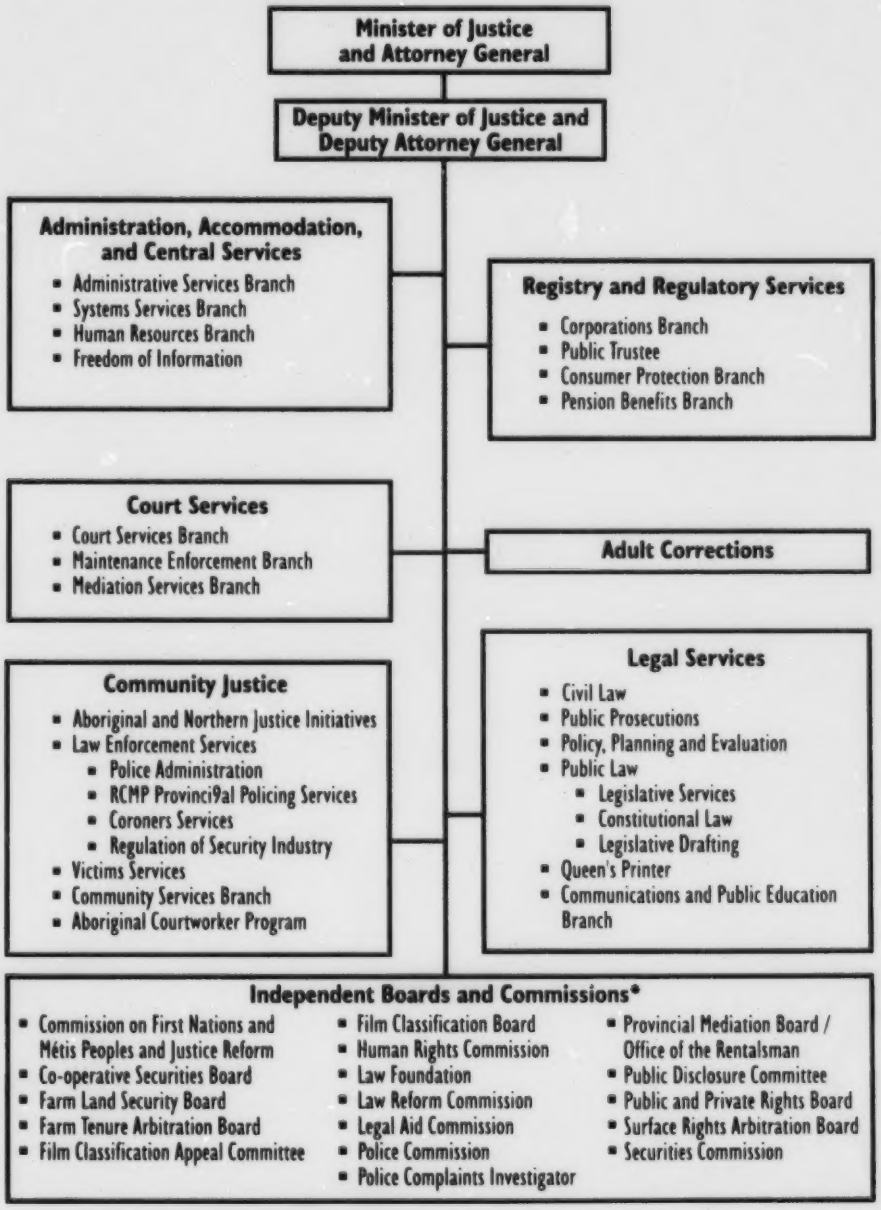
The Department, as a participant in the government-wide accountability project, is committed to evaluating the effectiveness of its programs and to ensuring that the financial choices made are producing the results the province needs in order to achieve its goal.

To that end, the Department's Performance Plan is appended to the Annual Report. The performance plan includes a vision for the future and long-term goals and objectives that will guide the Department over the next several years. The Annual Report also includes specific program goals and objectives for the 2002-2003 fiscal year.

STRATEGIC FUNCTIONS

To increase accountability, this annual report has been produced to correspond with the Department headings in the Provincial Estimates which reflect the Department's strategic functions:

- Administration, Accommodation and Central Services;
- Adult Corrections;
- Court Services;
- Community Justice;
- Registry and Regulatory Services; and
- Legal Services.



*Many of these Boards and Commissions produce separate annual reports.

FINANCIAL & HUMAN RESOURCES

2001-2002 OVERVIEW OF EXPENSES
($ amounts in 000s, employee counts in Full time equivalents (FTEs))

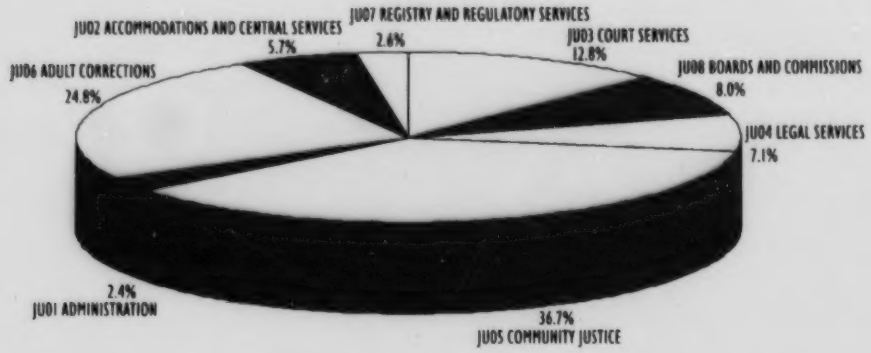
SUBVOTE	ACTUAL 2001-02	ACTUAL FTEs	ESTIMATE 2001-02	ESTIMATED FTEs	VARIANCE ACTUALS TO EXPENSE $	VARIANCE FTEs
JU01 ADMINISTRATION		83.8		85.2		(1.4)
SALARIES	4,101		3,964		137	
SUPPLIER AND OTHER PAYMENTS	1,647		1,810		(163)	
TRANSFERS	1		0		1	
SUB TOTAL	5,749		5,774		(25)	
VARIANCE EXPLANATION: HIGHER SALARY COSTS OFFSET BY REDUCED OPERATING EXPENSES						
JU02 ACCOMMODATION AND CENTRAL SERVICES		0.0		0.0		0.0
SUPPLIER AND OTHER PAYMENTS	13,519		13,529		(10)	
CAPITAL	41		936		(895)	
SUB TOTAL	13,560		14,465		(905)	
VARIANCE EXPLANATION: REALLOCATION OF CAPITAL FUNDS TO PINE GROVE CORRECTIONAL CENTRE/CORPORATE PRESSURES						
JU03 COURT SERVICES		369.8		3[illegible]		7.4
SALARIES	22,078		22,009		69	
SUPPLIER AND OTHER PAYMENTS	8,153		8,755		(602)	
TRANSFERS	22		0		22	
SUB TOTAL	30,253		30,764		(511)	
VARIANCE EXPLANATION: REDUCTION IN BAD DEBT EXPENSE						
JU04 LEGAL SERVICES		227.7		225.8		1.9
SALARIES	13,529		13,425		104	
SUPPLIER AND OTHER PAYMENTS	3,032		3,286		(254)	
TRANSFERS	236		0		236	
SUB TOTAL	16,797		16,711		86	
VARIANCE EXPLANATION: BACKFILL COSTS IN PROSECUTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS OPERATING SAVINGS						
JU05 COMMUNITY JUSTICE		22.2		21.5		0.7
SALARIES	1,378		1,204		(76)	
SUPPLIER AND OTHER PAYMENTS	2,520		2,231		289	
TRANSFERS	83,244		82,951		293	
SUB TOTAL	86,942		86,386		556	
VARIANCE EXPLANATION: RCMP AND SASKATOON INVESTIGATION CARRYOVER COSTS FROM 00/01						
JU06 ADULT CORRECTIONS		999.5		944.3		55.2
SALARIES	48,934		45,902		3032	
SUPPLIER AND OTHER PAYMENTS	9,225		11,755		(2530)	
TRANSFERS	528		0		528	
SUB TOTAL	58,687		57,657		1030	
VARIANCE EXPLANATION: PINE GROVE DISTURBANCE, SALARY SHORTFALL AND WORKLOAD PRESSURES						
JU07 REGISTRY AND REGULATORY SERVICES		96.3		99.0		(2.7)
SALARIES	4,121		4,135		(14)	
SUPPLIER AND OTHER PAYMENTS	1,933		2,604		(671)	
TRANSFERS	93		0		93	
SUBTOTAL	6,147		6,739		(592)	
VARIANCE EXPLANATION: REDUCED SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT COSTS						
JU08 BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS		73.6		76.7		(3.1)
SALARIES	3,964		3,892		72	
SUPPLIER AND OTHER PAYMENTS	3,325		1,689		1636	
TRANSFERS	11,662		11,299		363	
SUB TOTAL	18,951		16,880		2071	
VARIANCE EXPLANATION: NORTH BATTLEFORD WATER INQUIRY AND FUNDING FOR THE COMMISSION ON FIRST NATIONS AND METIS PEOPLES AND JUSTICE REFORM						
TOTAL SASKATCHEWAN JUSTICE						
SALARIES	**$ 97,905**	**1,872.9**	**$ 94,531**	**1,814.9**	**$ 3,374**	**58.0**
CAPITAL	**$ 41**		**$ 936**		**$ (895)**	
SUPPLIER AND OTHER PAYMENTS	**$ 43,354**		**$ 45,659**		**$ (2,305)**	
TRANSFERS	**$ 95,786**		**$ 94,250**		**$ 1,536**	
TOTAL	**$ 237,086**		**$ 235,376**		**$ 1,710**	

2001-2002 SUMMARY OF ACTUAL EXPENSES

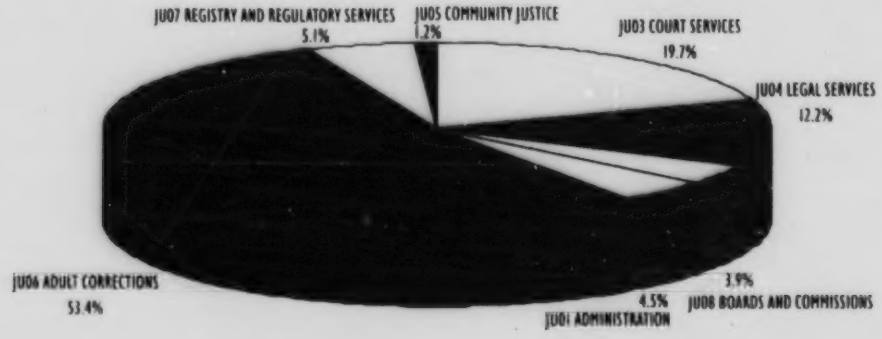
	ACTUALS ($000's)						ESTIMATE ($000's)						ACTUALS TO ESTIMATE	
SUBVOTE/SUB-PROGRAM	SALARIES	SUPPLIES AND OTHER PAYMENTS	CAPITAL	TRANSFERS	TOTAL EXPENSES	FTE'S	SALARIES	SUPPLIES AND OTHER PAYMENTS	CAPITAL	TRANSFERS	TOTAL EXPENSES	FTE'S	EXPENSES	FTE'S
JA01 ADMINISTRATION														
	4,101	1,647		1	5,749	83.8	3,964	1,810		0	5,774	81.2	(25)	(1.4)
JA02 ACCOMMODATION AND CENTRAL SERVICES														
ACCOMMODATION AND CENTRAL SERVICES	0	13,519	41	0	13,560	0.0	0	13,529	936	0	14,465	0.0	(905)	0.0
JA03 COURT SERVICES														
COURTS	12,736	7,393		22	20,150	321.6	12,532	7,957		0	20,489	310.7	(339)	10.9
SALARIES - PROVINCIAL COURT JUDGES (AUTHORIZED BY LAW)	7,221	70		0	7,291	0.0	7,121				7,121	0.0	170	0.0
MAINTENANCE ENFORCEMENT	1,425	214		0	1,639	35.9	1,57	239		0	1,810	34.6	(171)	(8.7)
MEDIATION SERVICES	696	476		1	1,173	12.3	785	559		0	1,344	15.1	(171)	(2.8)
TOTAL	22,078	8,153		22	30,253	369.8	22,009	8,755		0	30,764	362.4	(511)	7.4
JA04 LEGAL SERVICES														
CIVIL LAW	1,893	522		0	2,415	26.0	1,903	568		0	2,471	27.1	(56)	(1.1)
PUBLIC LAW	1,831	325		102	2,298	27.7	1,895	450		0	2,345	30.5	(47)	(2.8)
PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS	8,672	1,879		0	10,582	146.9	8,532	1,642		0	10,174	141.0	258	5.9
POLICY, PLANNING AND EVALUATION	819	169		120	1,108	10.1	782	399		0	1,181	12.0	(73)	(1.9)
COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC EDUCATION	268	91		14	373	6.1	313	138		0	451	6.4	(78)	(0.3)
OPERATING SUBSIDY QUEEN'S PRINTER	0	100			100			100			100	0.5		
QUEEN'S PRINTER REVOLVING FUND (AUTHORIZED BY LAW)	0	1		0	1	10.9	0	19		0	19	9.0	(18)	1.9
TOTAL	13,529	3,032		236	16,797	227.7	13,425	3,286		0	16,711	225.8	86	1.9
JA05 COMMUNITY JUSTICE														
POLICE ADMINISTRATION	397	190		2,342	2,929	7.7	483	54		2,750	3,287	9.0	(358)	(1.3)
CORONERS	958	1,044		0	1,202	2.6	134	1,040		0	1,174	2.5	28	0.1
COMMUNITY SERVICES	623	1,286		2,946	4,855	11.9	587	1,137		2,665	4,389	10.0	466	1.9
ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE	0	0		78,436	78,436	0.0	0	0		77,730	77,730	0.0	706	0.0
TOTAL	1,978	2,520		83,244	86,942	22.2	1,204	2,231		82,951	86,386	21.5	556	0.7
JA06 ADULT CORRECTIONS														
ADULT CORRECTIONS	48,934	8,995	528	58,047	996.5	45,902	11,679		0	57,581	935.5	366	61.0	
OPERATING SUBSIDY CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES IRD R.F.	0	142		0	142	0.0	0	142		0	142	0.0	0	0.0
CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES IRD R.F. (AUTHORIZED BY LAW)	0	98		0	98	3.0	0	(66)		0	(66)	8.5	164	(5.5)
TOTAL	48,934	9,225	528	58,687	999.5	45,902	11,755		0	57,657	944.3	1,030	55.2	
JA07 REGISTRY AND REGULATORY SERVICES														
LAND TITLES ASSURANCE CLAIMS (AUTHORIZED BY LAW)	0	75		0	75	0.0	0	25		0	25	0.0	50	0.0
CORPORATIONS	1,332	778		0	2,110	37.4	1,362	993		0	2,352	40.0	(242)	(2.6)
PUBLIC TRUSTEE	1,460	915		0	2,375	33.4	1,369	1,260		0	2,629	37.0	(254)	(3.6)
CONSUMER PROTECTION	1,192	139		93	1,424	23.1	1,213	307		0	1,520	23.0	(96)	(0.9)
PENSION BENEFITS	137	26		0	163	2.4	191	22		0	213	3.0	(50)	(0.6)
TOTAL	4,121	1,933		93	6,147	96.3	4,135	2,604		0	6,739	99.0	(592)	(2.7)
JA08 BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS														
FARM SECURITY PROGRAMS	804	330		0	734	8.3	875	471		0	946	10.5	(212)	(2.2)
LEGAL AID COMMISSION	0	0		11,015	11,015	0.0	0	0		11,199	11,199	0.0	(184)	0.0
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION	1,044	187		0	1,231	20.6	1,079	147		0	1,226	20.3	5	0.3
SECURITIES COMMISSION	917	241		0	1,158	17.0	942	338		0	1,280	18.0	(122)	(1.0)
SURFACE RIGHTS ARBITRATION BOARD	194	27		0	181	2.0	118	24		0	142	2.0	(1)	0.0
RENTALSMAN PROVINCIAL MEDIATION BOARD	728	219		0	947	14.6	734	267		0	1,001	17.6	(54)	(3.0)
SASKATCHEWAN POLICE COMMISSION	354	374		0	728	6.5	350	397		0	747	6.0	(19)	0.5
POLICE COMPLAINTS INVESTIGATOR	130	22		0	152	2.0	136	28		0	164	2.3	(12)	(0.3)
COMMISSION ON FIRST NATIONS AND METIS PEOPLES AND JUSTICE REFORM	339	151		247	517	0.0	0	0		0	0	0.0	517	0.0
INQUIRIES	154	1,774		0	1,928	0.0	50	17		0	75	0.0	1,853	0.0
TOTAL	3,964	3,325		11,662	18,951	73.6	3,892	1,689		11,299	16,880	76.7	2,071	(3.1)
TOTALS	$97,905	$43,354	$41	$95,786	$237,086	1,872.9	$94,531	$45,659	$936	$94,250	$235,376	1,814.9	$1,710	58.0

2001-2002 BUDGET AND HUMAN RESOURCE ALLOCATIONS

2001-2002 Actual Expenses by Subvote: $237,086,000



2001-2002 FTE Utilization by Subvote: 1,872.9

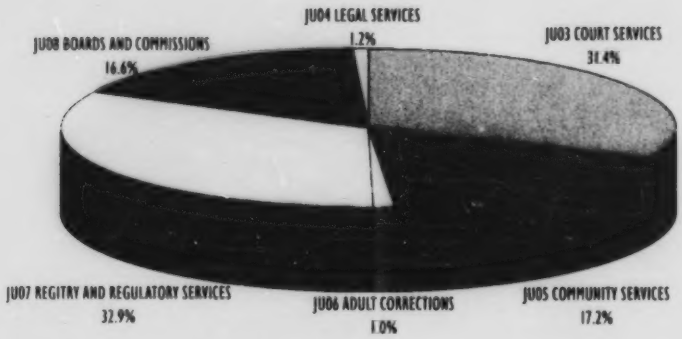


2001-2002 OVERVIEW OF REVENUES ($000s)

SUBVOTE	2001/2002 ACTUAL	ESTIMATE	VARIANCE	2000/2001 ACTUAL
JU01 ADMINISTRATION				
OTHER REVENUES	4	380	(376)	5
SUB-TOTAL	4	380	(376)	5
VARIANCE EXPLANATION	Casual revenue/refunds reflected in respective programs			
JU03 COURT SERVICES				
FINES, LATE PAYMENT FEES AND HOLDBACKS	14,313	14,083	230	12,712
COURT FEES AND LICENCES	6,040	6,123	(83)	6,244
MAINTENANCE ENFORCEMENT	4	7	(3)	0
MEDIATION	222	420	(198)	855
SUB TOTAL	20,579	20,633	(54)	19,811
VARIANCE EXPLANATION	Actual fines higher than estimate Reduced mediation training			
JU04 LEGAL SERVICES				
CIVIL LAW	2	0	2	2
POLICY, PLANNING AND EVALUATION	504	607	(103)	739
PUBLIC LAW	42	30	12	31
OTHER	23	0	23	4
SUB TOTAL	571	637	(66)	776
VARIANCE EXPLANATION	Reduced eligible expenditures for Child Centred Family Justice			
JU05 COMMUNITY JUSTICE				
MUNICIPAL RECOVERIES	10,539	11,094	(555)	10,813
COMMUNITY SERVICES	520	525	(5)	536
POLICING SERVICES	70	67	3	63
OTHER	189	6	183	1,144
SUB TOTAL	11,318	11,692	(374)	12,556
VARIANCE EXPLANATION	Reduced RCMP municipal billings due to fewer contracts			
JU06 ADULT CORRECTIONS				
FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL CORRECTIONS AGREEMENT	205	70	135	197
OTHER REVENUES	457	6	451	195
SUB TOTAL	662	76	586	392
VARIANCE EXPLANATION	Higher number of Federal inmates than anticipated Accrual adjustments relating to previous year expenses			
JU07 REGISTRY AND REGULATORY SERVICES				
TRANSFER FROM ISC FOR LAND TITLES*	8,000	8,000	0	8,000
TRANSFER FROM ISC FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY REGISTRY*	3,700	3,700	0	925
PERSONAL PROPERTY REGISTRY	0	0	0	3,602
PUBLIC TRUSTEE	2,374	3,133	(759)	3,547
CORPORATION LICENSES	5,352	5,651	(299)	5,393
CONSUMER PROTECTION LICENSES	1,921	1,608	313	1,820
PENSION BENEFITS	251	281	(30)	298
OTHER	5	0	5	0
SUB TOTAL	21,603	22,373	(770)	23,535
VARIANCE EXPLANATION	Reduced recovery of system costs Corporate registrations lower than estimated Increased consumer licences and fees			
JU08 BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS				
SECURITIES COMMISSION	7,275	5,635	1640	6,948
LEGAL AID COMMISSION	3,080	2,487	593	2,240
RENTALSMAN/PROVINCIAL MEDIATION BOARD	411	315	96	366
OTHERS	119	127	(8)	153
SUB TOTALS	10,885	8,564	2321	9,207
VARIANCE EXPLANATION	Increased activity in the Securities Commission Increase to Legal Aid Agreement and carry over from 2000 2001			
TOTAL	**$65,622**	**$64,355**	**$1,267**	**$66,282**

*Note: ISC stands for Information Services Corporation

2001-2002 REVENUES BY SUBVOTE



CAPITAL ASSETS

In accordance with generally accepted accounting policies for governments, physical assets purchased by Saskatchewan Justice are expensed in the year acquired. However, information on capital assets is useful because these assets are a key component in the delivery of government programs and provide ongoing book value to the public.

The net book value of physical assets currently neld by Saskatchewan Justice is $3,839,000.

Net book value represents the cost of the acquired physical assest less an estimate of the portion of the assests used in the delivery of services.

The Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation (SPMC) acquires physical assets which are used by Justice in our day to day operations. Examples include the acquisition and management of buildings used by the Department. These assets are reported in the SPMC financial statements.

(Thousands of dollars)		2002		2001
Capital Asset Categories	**Cost**	**Accumulated Amortization**	**Net Book Value March 31, 2002**	**Net Book Value March 31, 2001**
Machinery and Equipment	407	238	169	184
Systems Development	3,936	2,151	1,785	2,572
Vehicles	77	32	45	60
Computer Hardware	1,725	969	756	1,441
Computer Software	65	28	37	69
Office Equipment	105	52	53	77
Office Furniture	1,269	439	830	823
Other	232	68	164	160
Total Capital Assets	**7,816**	**3,977**	**3,839**	**5,386**

ADMINISTRATION, ACCOMMODATION & CENTRAL SERVICES

Administrative services are provided by three branches in the Department's Finance and Administration Division:

- the Administrative Services Branch;
- the Human Resources Branch; and
- the System Services Branch.

Accommodation services are co-ordinated by the Administrative Services Branch. Services include space and property management, records management, and overseeing mail services.

The following is the total budget for administrative services and for the Office of the Minister and the Office of the Deputy Minister in 2001-2002:

Budget: $5.8 million
FTEs: 85.2

The budget for Accommodation and Central Services was $14.5 million in 2001-2002.

The Finance and Administration Division houses and maintains the financial and personnel records for the Department.

The Systems Services Branch manages the Department's central computer systems and maintains the department-wide support network.

The client base of the Finance and Administration Division includes Saskatchewan Justice and the associated Boards and Commissions that report to the Minister of Justice.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BRANCH

The Administrative Services Branch provides the following services:

- financial management advice;
- budget co-ordination and forecasting;
- revenue and expense accounting;
- accounting services for the Office of the Rentalsman and the Provincial Mediation Board;
- accounting support for the operation of two cemeteries;
- internal audit;
- records management; and
- property management, mail services, and vehicle co-ordination.

In addition to its departmental support role, the Administrative Services Branch is the government's central agency for the co-ordination and administration of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

The Freedom of Information Unit produces its own annual report.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Continue to provide high quality and cost-effective administrative services to the Department and associated Boards and Commissions.
- Ensure appropriate financial controls are in place in new and redesigned systems and ensure the systems have been approved by the Provincial Comptroller's Office.
- Provide leadership and support for relocation, renovation, and capital projects.

- Implement the new budget and forecast system for use in the 2001-2002 fiscal year.
- Participate in the Government Accountability Project including the revision of the strategic plan and the development of integrated financial and capital plans.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Completed nine internal audits and audited four cost-share claims to assist senior management in ensuring the financial integrity of department programs. No fraudulent activities were detected during the regular audits. Detailed audit reports were issued to program managers to document situations of non-compliance with financial, legislative, or internal control requirements.
- No errors were identified by the Provincial Comptroller's Office during the sample post-audit of 2001-2002 accounting transactions.
- Continued to work with branches and the Provincial Comptroller's Office to ensure appropriate financial controls are in place in redesigned systems.
- Co-ordinated office renovation and/or relocation projects including the relocation of Moose Jaw Probation and the installation of an elevator and ramp at the Yorkton Courthouse. The unit also provided project management services for a number of smaller projects in Head Office and in offices and facilities across the province.
- Provided administrative support to government institutions and the public regarding *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Across government, 141 personal and 271 general applications were received in 2001-2002 as compared to 125 personal and 273 general applications in 2000-2001.
- Provided administrative support to the North Battleford Water Inquiry.
- Finalized the transfer of the former Personal Property Registry Branch to Information Services Corporation (ISC).

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

As of April 1, 2002, the Administrative Services Branch, under a shared services agreement, also began providing administrative services to the Department of Corrections and Public Safety.

- Continue to provide high quality and cost-effective administrative services to the Department and associated Boards and Commissions.
- Ensure appropriate financial controls are in place in new and redesigned systems and ensure the systems have been approved by the Provincial Comptroller's Office.
- Provide leadership and support for relocation, renovation, and capital projects.
- Continue to participate in the Government Accountability Project including updating the strategic plan and continuing the development of integrated financial and capital plans.
- Participate in the Government's central financial system replacement project by assigning staff to the project team and by serving as focus group members.

HUMAN RESOURCES BRANCH

Under the authority of *The Public Service Act*, the Human Resources Branch provides proactive, value-added consultative and administrative services that meet the human resource needs and expectations of the Department.

The client group of the Human Resources Branch includes managers and employees of Saskatchewan Justice and associated Boards and Commissions.

Primary services of the branch include:

- administering and delivering payroll, personnel, and benefit services to the Department;
- facilitating the development, implementation, and evaluation of a departmental work force plan that supports the departmental strategic plan;
- facilitating and providing expertise in the development of department human resource policies and letters of understanding;
- interpreting, assessing impact, facilitating, and representing departmental interests in the development and implementation of human resource policy and programs (i.e. recruitment, learning and development, classification, performance management, occupational health and safety, employment equity, labour relations, payroll and compensation);
- providing support and expertise to the Department in the administration of human resource programs, including employment equity, performance management, employee and family assistance, recruitment, classification, labour relations, and IPS;
- providing consultative services in the planning and implementation of the Human Resource components of organizational change. (i.e. technological change, program implementation or restructuring); and
- providing expertise on workplace relations policy and practice, and facilitating the resolution of workplace conflict and grievance resolution using a collaborative problem-solving approach.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Manage the transfer of Saskatchewan Justice employees to and from other organizations.
- Support the Department in the development of departmental or divisional human resource plans that align with strategic plans.
- Continue to facilitate and support the movement of human resource accountability from the Human Resources Branch to line management.
- Implement the results of the scope review.
- Lead, co-ordinate, and represent the Department's interests in relation to collective bargaining proposals.
- Co-ordinate, analyse the impact of, and implement the 2000-2003 collective bargaining agreement.
- Lead, co-ordinate, and represent departmental interests in the conversion of permanent part-time employees to permanent full-time employees.
- Liase with the Public Service Commission in the development and maintenance of core competencies.
- Develop a departmental program for the reintegration of employees on rehabilitation.
- Implement bi-weekly payroll.
- Lead the development, implementation, and maintenance of a grievance resolution process.
- Develop measurements for the Human Resources Branch workplan.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Participated in the negotiation of a transfer agreement for the movement of Land Titles, Personal Property Registry, and Chief Surveyor's Office to Information Services Corporation of Saskatchewan (ISC). Managed and implemented the transfer of employees and human resource administrative functions to ISC.

- Led and supported the development of the Department Strategic Workforce Plan. Provided information to management teams on workforce planning and facilitated the workforce planning process across seven divisions. The Department identified three areas for development: managing succession, enhancing recruitment and retention, and learning and development. Began development of these three areas, including draft recommendations for recruitment and retention.
- Completed review of delegations of authority in consideration of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, *The Public Service Act* and Regulations, and implemented new delegated authorities to support movement of human resource accountability from the Human Resources Branch to line management.
- Implemented the action plan associated with the conversion of employee positions from the out-of-scope classification plan to the in-scope classification plan, including the development and delivery of information sessions for employees impacted by the scope review and the provision of support management and employees with the development of their job descriptions. Assisted in the development of a Letter of Understanding concerning the hours of work for Assistant Deputy Directors (Security) which was required as a result of the scope review.
- Represented the Department's interests during the 2001-2002 Collective Bargaining with SGEU by participation on the bargaining committee.
- Identified and analyzed all changes made to the Collective Agreement to assess the impact on the Department and provided related information sessions to managers and stewards. Developed a question and answer document to address and clarify interpretations on the changes to the Collective Agreement.
- Provided overall coordination for the conversion of 133 permanent part-time employees to permanent full-time employees.
- Initiated and created a draft policy designed to improve the department's management of reintegrating employees on rehabilitation.
- Implemented bi-weekly payroll for in-scope employees and out-of-scope employees who were moved in-scope as a result of the government's scope review.
- Reviewed all grievances with managers and SGEU to prioritize and identify resolution options. The number of outstanding grievances as of March 31, 2001, was reduced by 56 per cent as a result of this initiative.
- Co-facilitated team building sessions with work units which led to the development and delivery of information on conflict resolution, job classification, and evaluation training.
- Reviewed and revised the vision, mission, and values statements, and service lines for the Human Resources Branch Futures Document.
- Analyzed and developed a pay comparison document between the Department nurses and SUN/SAHO nurses, which supported the Department's request for up-in-range appointments.
- Participated as a member of the Multiple Jobs Committee in preparation for negotiations with SGEU.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

As of April 1, 2002, the Human Resources Branch, under a shared services agreement, also began providing HR services to the Department of Corrections and Public Safety.

- Continue to develop and analyze internal and external data pertaining to workforce planning and facilitate workforce planning. Support the continuing development of strategies in managing succession, enhancing recruitment and retention, and learning and development.
- Continue to facilitate and support the movement of human resource accountability to line management.
- Develop departmental work plan(s) for the implementation of the new out-of-scope classification, compensation, and performance review plans.
- Participate in classification appeal hearings for employees who were classified into the in-scope classification plan from the out-of-scope plan.

- Continue to lead, co-ordinate, and represent departmental interests in issues and side negotiations flowing from the Collective Agreement.
- Implement the Recruitsoft technology.
- Finalize policy guidelines to improve the management of employee accommodation and rehabilitation within the departments.
- Continue with the implementation and maintenance of a grievance resolution process.
- Continue to apply the integrated Human Resource Planning model when Department change initiatives are undertaken.
- Provide expertise and support to management in the review of Crown Counsel compensation.
- Initiate discussions with the Public Service Commission and Saskatchewan Government Employees Union on a labour relations strategy.
- Conduct a review of the Human Resource Branch structure in a shared services environment.

SYSTEMS SERVICES BRANCH

The Systems Services Branch provides support and direction to the Department in the use of Information Technology to support its business strategies and increase the creativity and productivity of employees.

Client groups of the Systems Services Branch include all branches and divisions of Saskatchewan Justice, several Boards and Commissions under the direction of the Minister of Justice and Information Services Corporation (ISC).

The primary responsibilities of the Branch include:

- client services to assist branches in planning and identifying opportunities for using information technology in meeting their program objectives;
- project management services to client branches for changes to their program objectives, which often includes the development and enhancement of computer systems;
- support services to individuals using information technology;
- application support services for the 45 applications used by branches of the Department;
- technical services to provide the appropriate technical infrastructure and availability of technology to support the delivery of departmental programs and initiatives; and
- acquisition services for the departmental information technology requirements.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Progress with detailed design and development of Guardian, Phase II, with the Office of the Public Trustee.
- Initiate COBRA RELEASE II and complete development with Corporations Branch.
- Continue to work to support the implementation of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*.
- Present the Security Awareness seminar to 250 staff members and distribute the Security Awareness Booklet throughout the Department.
- Amend the Information Technology/Information Management Plan to 2001/02.
- Determine viability, validity and associated costs in updating legacy systems software.
- Achieve 100 per cent virus detection and decontamination on the Department network.
- Provide 99.9 per cent system availability during business hours.
- Answer 12,000 Help Desk phone calls with an abandonment rate of less than six per cent.
- Install approximately 300 new desktop and laptop computers throughout the Department.
- Complete the CommunityNet detailed design and implementation plan for more than 60 Department locations.
- Complete and implement Disaster Recovery Plans for all applications.

- Continue to improve access to information and data at all departmental levels.
- Work with Information Services Corporation on the migration of Personal Property Registry, Chief Surveyors Office, and Land Titles offices.
- Assist with the design, implementation, and completion of the six approved Government On-line (GOL) projects through Project Management and consultation.
- Complete workforce planning exercises.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Began production on Guardian Release 3.1 with the Office of Public Trustee in December 2001. Guardian Release Avalanche 5.0 was completed in January 2002 and Guardian Reporting Application was completed in March 2002.
- Completed COBRA RELEASE I.5 and initiated COBRA RELEASE II with Corporations Branch.
- Continued to work to support the implementation of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*.
- Presented the Security Awareness seminar to 56 non-custodial staff and distributed the Security Awareness booklet.
- Completed the summary version of the Department's Information Technology/Information Management Plan.
- Continued refurbishing the 2002/03 Information Technology/Information Management Detailed Plan.
- Completed detailed assessments of the impact of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* for the court system, JAIN, and the adult correction system, CMIS.
- Maintained information technology security and ensured that the network was not compromised.
- Provided 99.8 per cent system availability during business hours.
- Answered 16,000 Help Desk telephone calls and opened 11,000 new trouble tickets with an abandonment rate of 8.1 per cent.
- Installed 91 personal and laptop computers.
- Completed the CommunityNet detailed design and implementation plan for more than 60 Department locations.
- Completed and made operable Disaster Recovery Plans for all applications.
- Continued to improve access to information and data for all internal clients.
- Completed the migration plan for Information Services Corporation.
- Assisted with the design and completion of the six approved GOL projects through project management and consultation.
- Completed workforce planning exercises and implemented a Peer Recognition Award.
- Participated in a multi-jurisdictional chartering for the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*.
- Contributed to the working group addressing the sentence calculation issues associated with the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*.
- Completed the Request for Proposal for Saskatchewan Securities Commission.
- Developed the Summary Offence Ticket program.
- Assisted another provincial jurisdiction in the acquisition and implementation of the Consumer Protection Branch's version of the Consumer Affairs Tracking System (CATS).
- Signed-off the migration of the COBRA system.
- Implemented and supported the North Battleford Water Inquiry Infrastructure.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

As of April 1, 2002, the Systems Services Branch, under a shared services agreement, also began providing systems services to the Department of Corrections and Public Safety.

- Resolve 70 per cent of all new trouble tickets at the Tier 1 front line or Help Desk level.
- Reduce the direct calls of new trouble tickets received by the Tier II and Tier III members from 13 per cent to 10 per cent.
- Attain an abandonment rate of less than six per cent per 15,000 incoming telephone calls.
- On a proactive basis, support the business applications of the Department.
- Present the Security Awareness seminar to 100 staff.
- Phase out support for Land Titles Offices as they are converted to the new LAND system.
- Install 150 new personal computers and laptops.
- Complete CommunityNet Phase I implementation.
- Assist with the design and project management of four approved GOL projects.
- Continue to support implementation of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*.
- Sustain involvement with Government-wide Enterprise Architecture.
- Implement the required infrastructure and provide support for the Commission on First Nations and Metis Peoples and Justice Reform.
- Research and enhance the Remote Mail Access System.
- Provide system availability of 99.9 per cent during business hours.

ADULT CORRECTIONS

The mission of the Adult Corrections Division is to promote safe communities by providing a range of controls and re-integration for offenders.

The activities of the Division are governed by:

- *The Correctional Services Act*;
- *The Summary Offences Procedure Act*;
- *The Occupational Health and Safety Act*,
- *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*;
- *The Corrections and Conditional Release Act*;
- *The Criminal Code*;
- *The Prisons and Reformatories Act*; and
- *The Young Offenders Act*.

Corrections Division achieves its mission by offering a wide range of programs providing for varying levels of offender care, control, and supervision. These programs are delivered through three operational systems: Community Operations Branch, Institutional Operations Branch, and Community Facilities Branch.

Community and Institutional services for Northern Saskatchewan offenders are administered through the North West Community Operations office in North Battleford and the North East Community Operations Office located in Prince Albert.

The Community Operations Branch assists the court by providing essential information for interim release or sentencing purposes (bail and pre-sentence reports), and promotes the responsible behaviour of offenders by providing a meaningful and socially productive level of control in the community.

The services include developing and administering a range of responsible sentencing and pre-trial alternatives such as bail supervision, conditional sentence supervision, fine option, probation, restitution, community service work, intensive probation supervision/electronic monitoring, and impaired driving treatment. The programs are administered through six regional offices and nine sub-offices.

The Institutional Operations Branch administers programs for the care and custody of offenders sentenced to terms of imprisonment of less than two years and offenders remanded by the courts at the pre-trial stage. There are currently 13 correctional facilities being administered by the Branch:

- four provincial correctional centres;
- two community correctional centres;
- two correctional camps as well as an urban camp which acts as a satellite to a correctional facility (the Saskatoon Urban Camp); and
- the St. Louis Impaired Driver Treatment Program.

The Community Facilities Branch provided community residential services for low-security offenders who require assistance to function in the community. Eligible offenders include pre-release inmates from custody and offenders under various community sentences who are at high-risk of violating conditions of supervision. These release programs are provided by community-training residences, a female community-training residence in Saskatoon, two bed spaces contracted with the Young Women's Christian Association in Regina for females sentenced to intermittent sentences, and the Prince Albert Grand Council Spiritual Healing Lodge.

Adult offenders are sentenced by the courts to community corrections programs and/or to terms of imprisonment of less than two years. Selected Saskatchewan offenders sentenced to federal terms of incarceration are allowed to serve their sentences in provincial correctional centres to be near their homes and families under the terms of an Exchange of Services Agreement with the federal government.

Program equipment, such as stoves, fridges, recreation equipment, shop equipment, shop tools and program furniture, is owned assets of Corrections. Most capital assets in use by Corrections are rented from Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation.

Budget: $57.7 million
FTEs: 944.3

2001-2002 Objectives, Activities and Results

Maintain an environment supportive of the Corrections Division's mission, values, and principles.

- All correctional centres implemented strategic plans that identified specific commitments to achieving the Division's mission, values, and principles.
- The Community Operations Branch finalized the Workload Committee Action Plan setting out a strategic direction to better address workload issues. This included a better understanding of the budget process and participation in regional priority setting, the increased use of the Data Mart to analyze caseloads to enhance decision-making, and more effective and targeted service delivery.
- The Community Facilities Branch developed and communicated a vision for the direction of community facilities throughout the province.

Maintain an effective accountability framework.

- Developed performance indicators for the Community Operations Branch which reflect the core business activities identified in the Workload Committee Action Plan.
- Developed a framework for amending provincial legislation to reinforce a victim-centered approach and offender accountability.
- Tracked monthly performance indicators for the Institutional Operations Branch in relation to the key activities within the Branch (e.g. admissions, escapes, incidents, offender complaints, program enrolments and completions, etc.).
- Maintained a monitoring system to assist the judiciary in tracking decisions from the courts which result in offenders entering the correctional system.
- Provided ongoing assistance to the Provincial Ombudsman and her staff in the review process for correctional services in the province.
- Delivered crisis management training to senior institutional managers and staff to reinforce the principles of the rule of law and assist staff to develop and modify overall contingency plans.
- Completed reviews of all major security incidents and implemented corrective action where required, including changes and amendments to policies and procedures, and changes to the physical infrastructure of the facilities to enhance overall safety and security.
- Developed a set of Safety and Security Guidelines for Community Operations.
- Developed and implemented a self-audit process for use in correctional centres to assess compliance with security policies.

Implement the integrated case management strategy for the Division.

- Completed an evaluation of Phase I of the integrated case management initiative. A final report was produced and corrective action was initiated by work units.
- Completed an evaluation of the primary risk assessment instrument that is used to assess offenders' level of risk to re-offend and their criminogenic needs. Staff, both in institutions and the community, completed 5,568 primary risk-needs assessments, 142 second sex offender assessments, 1,066 secondary general assault assessments, and 1,259 secondary partner abuse assessments.
- Initiated work with the Human Services Integration Forum to develop protocol to improve service delivery to high need, complex cases.
- In collaboration with the Solicitor General of Canada, co-led a national study of Pre-Sentence Reports.

Implement an effective correctional programming strategy for the Division.

- Developed and delivered the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome training module to all Community Operations staff, Community Training Residence staff, and supervisors and health care staff in the Correctional Centres. Training for other correctional centre staff will occur in 2002-03.
- Corrections Division offered 79 offender programs in 2001-02, 41 of which were in the community and 38 in correctional facilities. The aggregate number of offenders enrolled in community

programs was 1,255 and 2,382 in the correctional facility programs. Of the offenders enrolled in programs, 71 per cent completed the programs in the community and 79 per cent completed their programs in the correctional facilities.

- Completed an assessment of all correctional programs against the research findings of the characteristics of effective correctional programs. The long-term objective is to ensure that all of the Division's programs are based on current research, delivered in a standardized manner, and available to all community and incarcerated offenders.
- Initiated a revision of the Prism Industries Program strategy to balance the business outputs with the program needs of offenders.
- Implemented changes to the risk-needs assessment instruments used for sex offenders.
- Initiated a working group to assess and define the health care standards offered in correctional centres.

Identify and implement alternative ways of delivering correctional services.

- Participated in consultation forums with the FSIN on the implementation of their Corrections Strategic Plan for First Nations communities.
- Participated in the development and implementation of the Cree Court party. Assigned two probation officers to work with the court.
- Developed an Aboriginal community consultation framework for Community Operations.
- Developed a community consultation package for use by all Community operations staff to assist in community meetings and presentations.
- Developed and maintained Early Release supervision agreements with Mistawasis First Nation, Sturgeon Lake First Nation, English River First Nation, Waterhen Lake First Nation, Black Lake First Nation, and La Ronge Indian Band. Agreements will be established with all First Nation communities by 2005.
- Maintained a liaison officer at the Prince Albert Grand Council Spiritual Healing Lodge to assist with the delivery of correctional services in a manner that is consistent with provincial standards and guidelines.
- Maintained a partnership with Elizabeth Fry of Saskatchewan to deliver community-based programs for women in conflict with the law.
- Established an Elders Advisory Committee that provides advice and guidance to senior managers.

Implement the Division's human resource development strategy.

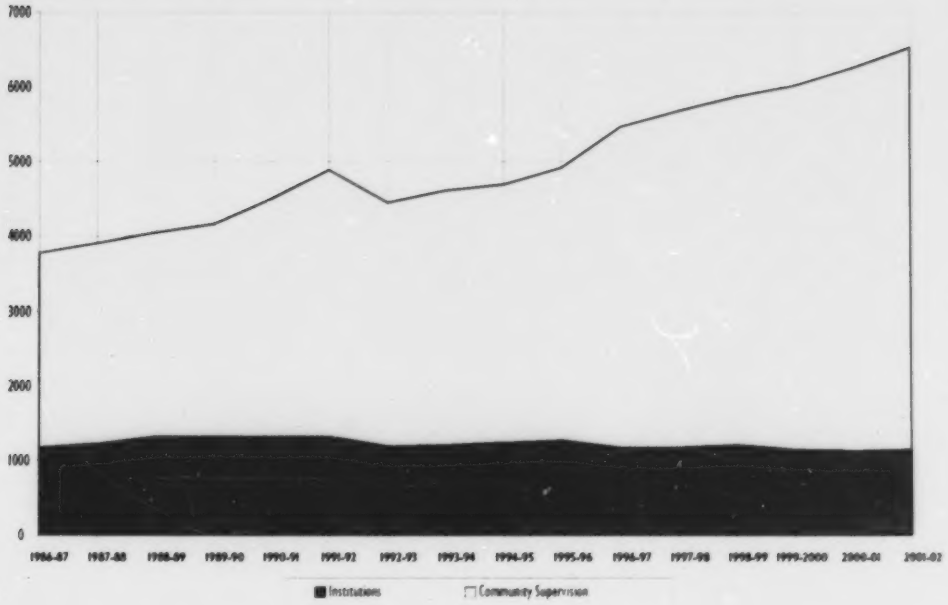
- The leadership development learning events for managers were identified and scheduled for fiscal year 2001-02.
- The Induction Training Program for Corrections Workers was modified to reflect the Division's mission, values, and principles.
- Trained 10 staff as trainers to provide a one-day Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Module.
- All Community Operations regions have initiated/developed a learning plan with their staff.
- Developed a Probation Officer Orientation Manual.
- Provided training/learning opportunities to 667 employees. The average number of training days per employee was 4.3.
- Staff participated in the following leadership training events: Orientation to Corrections Division Strategic Director - 28; 7-Habits of Highly Effective People - 107; and Performance Management - 25.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

Effective April 1, 2002, the Adult Corrections Division was transferred to the new Department of Corrections and Public Safety.

The goals and objectives for the Corrections Division will be defined in the Corrections and Public Safety Department's Performance Plan.

Total Offender Population 1986/87 to 2001/02 (to March 31, 2002)



Corrections Comparative Data

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
Corrections Centre Admissions:				
Sentenced	3,850	3,368	3,210	3,403
Remand	7,175	8,665	9,519	10,194
Average Daily Sentenced and Remand Counts	1,203	1,144	1,130	1,142
Average Monthly Probation Caseload	3,820	3,720	3,804	3,973
Average Monthly Conditional Sentences of Imprisonment	815	876	1,006	1,094
Hours of Community Service Worked [2]	44,567	64,738	34,429	46,738
Restitution to Victims ($ Value Collected)	$736,905	$556,138 [3]	$524,029	$520,452
Average Cases Supervised per Month on Intensive Probation Supervision/Electronic Monitoring	104	108	129	127
Daily Average on Bail Supervision	262	305	310	337
Average Daily Community Facilities [4]	86	82	95	85

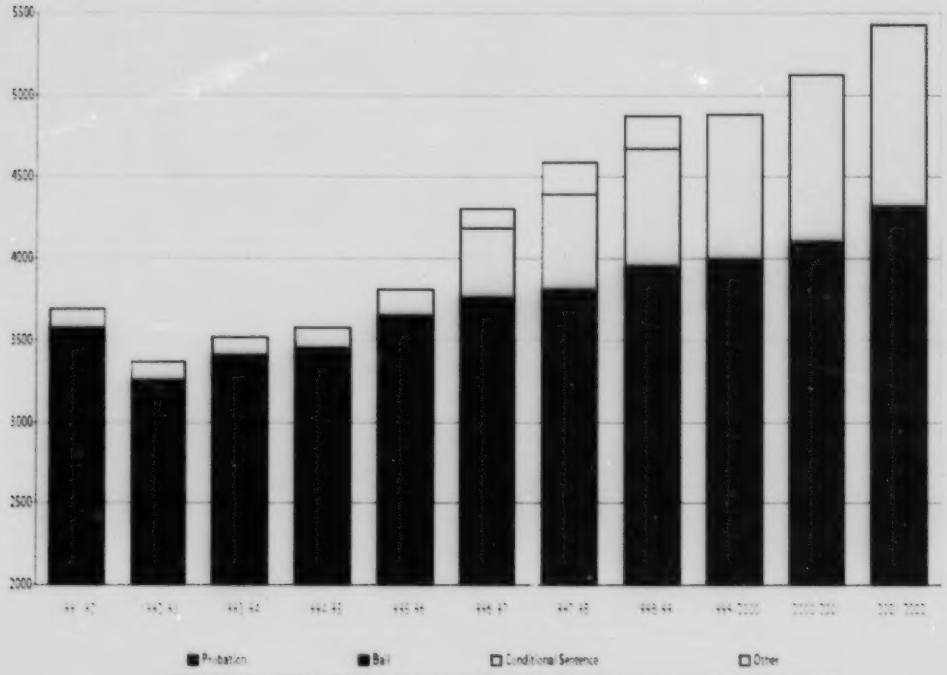
[1]New legislation was effective September 1, 1996.

[2]Includes young offenders except those from Prince Albert, Regina, and Saskatoon.

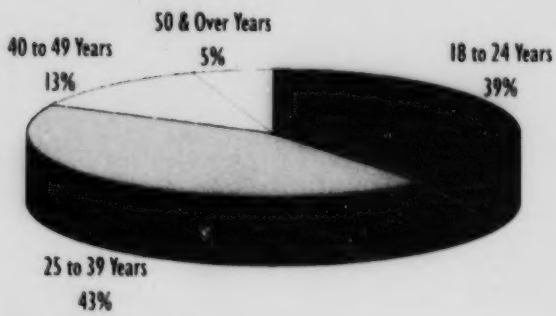
[3]This is restitution ordered as a condition of a probation order. This does not include restitution ordered under Section 738 of the *Criminal Code*.

[4]Includes the Spiritual Healing Lodge and the Women's Community Training Residence.

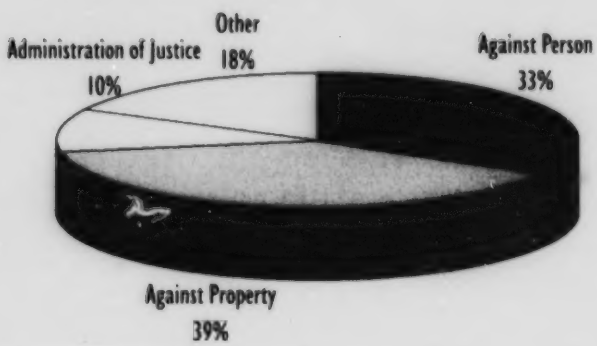
Average Community Supervision Count 1991/92 to 2001/02 (as of March 31, 2002)



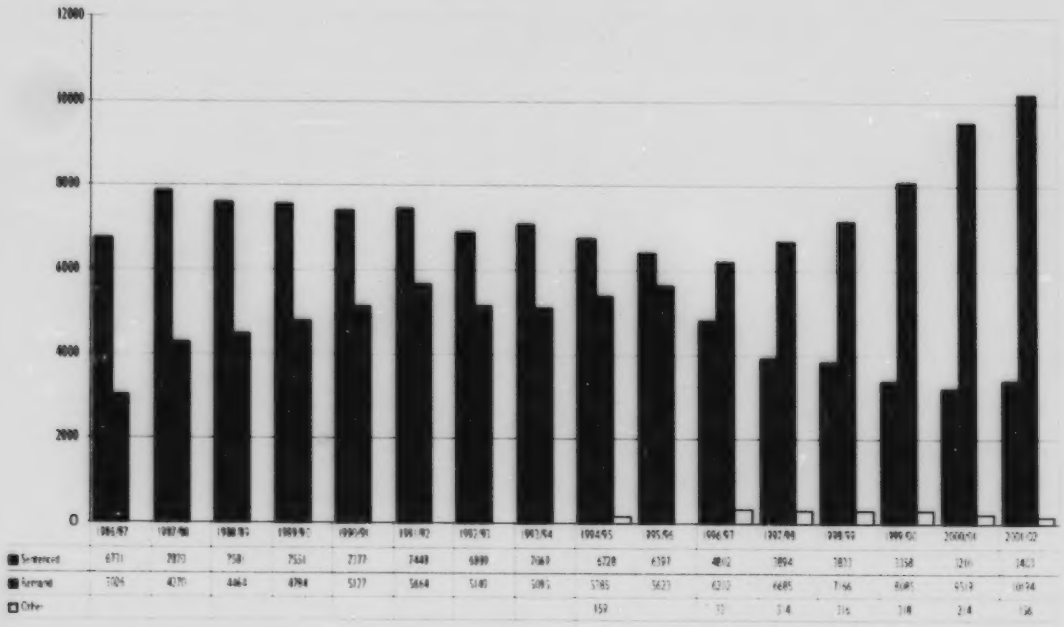
2001-2002 Age Profile for Community Supervision Admissions



2001-2002 Community Supervision Admissions by Most Serious Offence

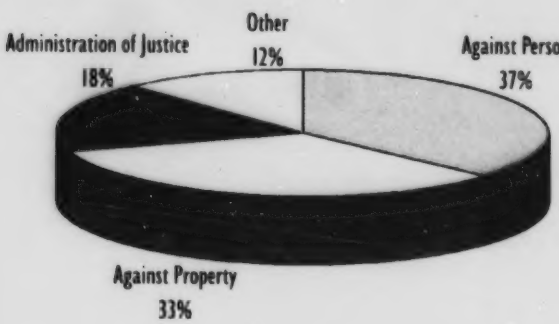


Custodial Admissions

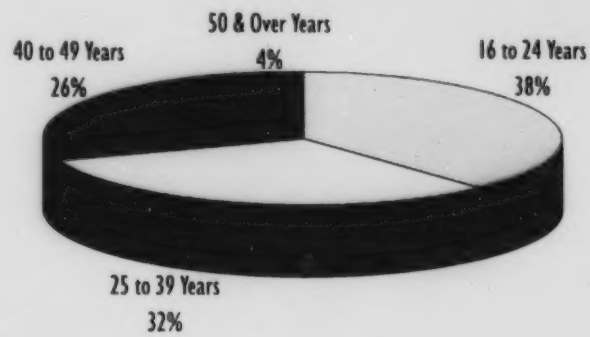


Sentenced	6731	7870	7581	7554	7377	7448	6899	7063	6728	6397	6102	6694	7083	8000	10074
Remand	3004	4079	4464	4784	5127	5664	5140	5085	5785	5623	6210	6685	7166	8085	9519
Other									159		72	214	316	318	214

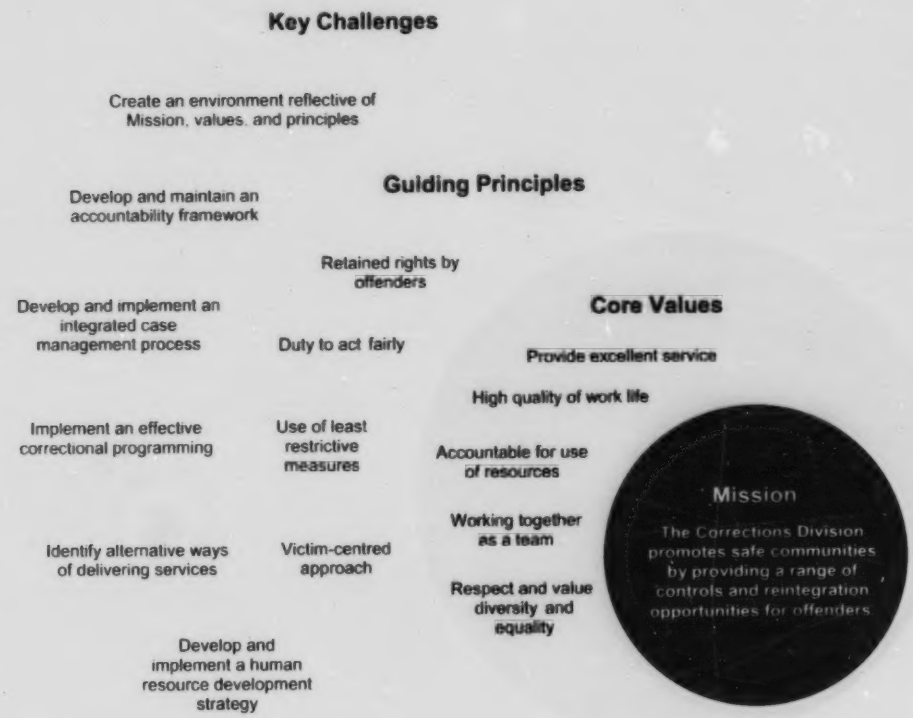
2001-2002 Custodial Admissions by Most Serious Offence



2001-2002 Age Profile for Custodial Admissions



Mission of the Corrections Division


Key Challenges
Create an environment reflective of Mission, values, and principles
Guiding Principles
Develop and maintain an accountability framework
Retained rights by offenders
Develop and implement an integrated case management process
Duty to act fairly
Core Values
Provide excellent service
High quality of work life
Implement an effective correctional programming
Use of least restrictive measures
Accountable for use of resources
Working together as a team
Identify alternative ways of delivering services
Victim-centred approach
Respect and value diversity and equality
Develop and implement a human resource development strategy
Mission
The Corrections Division promotes safe communities by providing a range of controls and reintegration opportunities for offenders

COMMUNITY JUSTICE

On April 1, 1997, a reorganization of Saskatchewan Justice created a Community Justice Division. The Public Law and Policy Division was split into the Public Law Division and the Community Justice Division. This change better reflects the Department's focus on restorative and Aboriginal justice and the Department's commitment to safe communities by involving the community in the justice system.

The division has four branches:

- Aboriginal and Northern Justice Initiatives;
- Community Services;
- Law Enforcement Services; and
- Victims Services.

The Community Justice Division develops policies and programs for delivering and supervising community justice programs.

The Division also provides programs and services for victims of crime through government, law enforcement, and community organizations.

Budget $86.4 million
FTEs: 21.5

ABORIGINAL AND NORTHERN JUSTICE INITIATIVES

The Aboriginal and Northern Justice Initiatives (ANJI) Branch was formed in late 2000 to help the Department:

- initiate justice reform measures that effectively respond to Aboriginal and northern community issues;
- build community trust and confidence in the justice system; and
- establish positive working relationships between the Department of Justice and Aboriginal and northern communities.

The mandate of the Branch includes:

- providing Aboriginal and northern program and policy advice in order to:
  - ensure that the needs of Aboriginal and northern people are effectively addressed in existing and proposed activities;
  - identify areas where departmental capacity requires enhancement; and
  - facilitate the self-empowerment of Aboriginal and northern communities to address crime, victimization and preventive issues;
- identifying areas of particular challenge within the Justice system, gathering information to clarify the nature of these challenges, and identifying existing best practices and realistic options for addressing them;
- providing strategic co-ordination between reform activities initiated within the Branch and those initiated across the department, and within other relevant agencies;
- initiating and participating in interdepartmental and intergovernmental collaboration on Aboriginal Justice reform; and
- initiating and participating in activities that will build positive relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities.

The client group of the Branch involves all stakeholders in Aboriginal Justice and justice reform:

- the criminal justice system;
- other divisions, branches, and programs within the Department of Justice;
- Aboriginal and northern communities interested in partnering with the Department to address community safety and crime prevention/reduction issues and justice reform;
- community-based programs and services working with the Department;
- individual citizens and communities requiring information and assistance to notify appropriate jurisdictions about their concerns and issues;
- traditional Aboriginal Elders concerned with justice related matters such as family violence, sentencing circles, youth crime and crime prevention; and
- other government departments and local governments.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Assist in the establishment of the Commission on First Nations and Metis Peoples and Justice Reform.
- Continue to promote the Framework Agreement for Community Policy Initiatives between the Department of Justice, the RCMP, and the Saskatchewan Association of Northern Communities. This involves providing policy, development, advisory, and training services to northern Community Police Boards and local RCMP Detachments.
- Assist in the planning and coordination for a Northern Justice Symposium sponsored by the Saskatchewan Association of Northern Municipalities and jointly hosted with the RCMP and the Department of Justice.
- Provide environmental scanning and issues identification services for the Department. This involves matters such as: policing services, victims services, court services and sentencing.
- Work collaboratively with other departments to develop an integrated social development plan for northern Saskatchewan under the guidelines of the Northern Strategy.
- Encourage the development of trust-based relationships between the justice system and Aboriginal and northern communities by providing issues management services that use collaborative problem-solving processes.
- Provide opportunities for increased awareness and knowledge about cross-cultural relations and partnership building with traditional Aboriginal or indigenous peoples and increasing the Department's awareness of international best practices in this regard. This involves facilitating discussions between Aboriginal Elders, the Minister of Justice and senior management towards the development of an Elders Justice Advisory Committee to the Minister of Justice. The Branch is also developing a project for policy response mechanisms for addressing issues of cultural differences, human rights and inter-societal relations.
- Assist in the establishment of the Northern Cree Court.
- Assist in the development of community-based crime prevention initiatives in northern Saskatchewan. This involves working with the National Crime Prevention Centre's Community Mobilization Program and northern communities.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- The Commission on First Nations and Metis Peoples and Justice Reform was established and announced on November 5, 2001.
- Set-up the administrative and operational functions of the Branch. This also involved developing processes and procedures for responding to requests for assistance from other areas of the Department, the criminal justice system, and Aboriginal communities.
- Provided a series of five regional training workshops for police officers, Community Police Boards and First Nations Police Management Boards to further development of positive relations and problem solving skills.

- Chaired the steering committee for the Northern Justice Symposium including members of the RCMP, New North, and the Department. Linked and facilitated involvement from other provincial and federal departments.
- Provided on-going environmental scanning and briefing material for the Minister and the department.
- Provided project and issue specific assistance to Court Services, Law Enforcement Services, and Victims Services. Also participated in departmental planning and review activities concerned with the Northern Cree Court, court facilities on reserves and in northern Saskatchewan, the Justice of the Peace Program/PAGC activities, First Nations Policing Agreements, Aboriginal corrections consultations, the La Chance file, and the Northern Strategy. Represent the Department on the board for Public Legal Education Association and on the central government committee for women's issues.
- Initiated the development of the Aboriginal Elders Advisory Committee to the Minister. The "Elder's Process" has currently covered the north and southern regions of the province and involves a cross-section of senior and executive management of the Department and the six linguistic groups among Aboriginal communities.
- Developed templates, codes, and processes for establishing a repository of electronic and hard-copy information about the activities, concerns and status of community justice development in the province. When completed, this will be a comprehensive Community Profile Program (CPP) that can be accessed by the various jurisdictions and functions of the Department and the criminal justice system. As time and funding permits, the CPP will be made accessible to communities.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Coordinate and facilitate activities between the Department and the Commission on First Nations and Metis Peoples and Justice Reform. Liaise with other federal and provincial departments impacted by the Commission's community meetings.
- Continue to promote the Framework Agreement for Community Policy Initiatives between the Department of Justice, the RCMP and the Saskatchewan Association of Northern Communities. This involves providing policy, development, advisory and training services to northern Community Police Boards and local RCMP Detachments.
- Provide de-briefing and follow-up regarding the outcomes of the Northern Justice Symposium held in April 2002. Two policy areas impacted include:
  - northern calls for stronger sanctions against drug traffickers and bootleggers; and
  - northern calls for different responses to the current practices for responding to domestic violence.
- Continue to provide environmental scanning and issues identification services for the Department. This involves matters such as: policing services, victims services, court services and sentencing.
- Continue to work collaboratively with other departments to develop an integrated social development plan for northern Saskatchewan under the guidelines of the Northern Strategy.
- Encourage the development of trust-based relationships between the justice system and Aboriginal and northern communities by providing issues management services that use collaborative problem solving processes. This service is on-going.
- Establish and facilitate the development of the Elder's Advisory Committee to the Minister.
- Continue to identify ways for the criminal justice system to participate in community justice development and engage in specific community activities; particularly in the areas of capacity building, establishing linkages and partnerships, crime prevention and community safety.
- Continue developing repositories of information for the Community Profiles Program. This will also involve the submission of a proposal for the development of an electronic knowledge base data system that can be accessed by the Department and the criminal justice system.
- Continue to identify and initiate ways for the Department to self-identify areas or aspects of the Department and the criminal justice system that impact relationships between Justice and Aboriginal peoples. This involves the implementation of the Policy Response Awareness Mechanism project.

COMMUNITY SERVICES BRANCH

Community Services Branch is responsible for improving the effectiveness of the criminal justice system for victims, communities, and offenders. This work is accomplished by supporting community development and emphasizing a community-based approach to justice.

The branch operates the Saskatchewan Aboriginal Courtworker Program and funds programs that meet the goals and objectives of the Restorative Justice and Aboriginal Justice Strategies.

Community Services Branch is committed to the following principles:

- respect for communities, individuals, culture and diversity;
- recognition of community ability and the potential of individuals;
- support of a wholistic approach in projects; and
- promotion of mutual responsibility and accountability within an environment of cooperation.

Our vision is to be a valued partner in the development of integrated, community-based justice services which contribute to safe homes and communities.

We collaborate with and support communities to develop their capacity to deliver culturally sensitive justice services which promote community-owned responses to crime, encourage family participation, respond to the needs of victims, hold offenders accountable, and foster positive change.

Governing legislation includes:

- the *Criminal Code;*
- the *Young Offenders Act*; and
- Provincial Statutes for which alternative measures are available.

The client groups of the Community Services Branch include:

- Aboriginal governments, Tribal Councils, First Nations, and service delivery agencies;
- community-based organizations which deliver alternative measures programs;
- offenders (including those who require Courtworker services);
- victims (including those who participate in the conflict resolution forums through alternative measures); and
- other partners in the criminal justice system such as police, RCMP, Social Services youth justice system, federal crown, Correctional Services Canada, the judiciary, Victim Services, community and institutional corrections, and public prosecutions.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Support the development of adult diversion programs by expanding existing programs and initiating new services.
- Develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the federal government to continue its financial contributions for Aboriginal community-based justice programs.
- Design a communications strategy and plan for the branch and continue to update and produce program materials.
- Together with community agencies, deliver training to meet the needs of community and criminal justice personnel involved in community-based programs.
- Develop sound policy and actions to encourage local, regional, and provincial approaches to community integration by engaging social care agents.
- Continue to support integration within the criminal justice system to better meet the needs of victims and offenders.

- Provide opportunities for community-based and Aboriginal agency staff to meet and enhance professional development.
- Host a Restorative Justice conference to discuss future directions.
- Continue the ongoing Restorative Justice and Aboriginal Justice Evaluation Strategies with the Policy, Planning and Evaluation Branch by undertaking qualitative and quantitative information-gathering about objectives and program activities.
- Continue to offer presentations to local, provincial and national groups about the Saskatchewan justice initiatives.
- Continue to provide national leadership as co-chair of the federal/provincial/ territorial Working Group on Restorative Justice.
- Participate in federal/provincial/territorial discussions on the Renewal of the federal Aboriginal Justice Strategy to secure a stable and complete funding mandate.
- Provide a leadership role nationally with the design of data collection and training for the Aboriginal Court Worker Program.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Supported the development of adult diversion programs by initiating new services through Community Justice Committees in Kindersley and Martensville.
- Working with FSIN and the RCMP, delivered training to meet the needs of community and criminal justice personnel involved in community-based programs.
- Provided opportunities for community-based and Aboriginal agency staff to meet and enhance professional development.
- Continued the ongoing Restorative Justice and Aboriginal Justice Evaluation Strategies with the Policy, Planning and Evaluation Branch by undertaking qualitative and quantitative information-gathering about objectives and program activities.
- Continued to offer presentations to local, provincial and national groups about the Saskatchewan justice initiatives.
- Continued to provide national leadership as co-chair of the federal/provincial/territorial Working Group on Restorative Justice.
- Participated in the federal/provincial/territorial discussions on the Renewal of the federal Aboriginal Justice Strategy to secure a stable and complete funding mandate.
- Provided a leadership role nationally with the design of data collection and training for the Aboriginal Court Worker Program.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Support the development of adult diversion programs through expanding existing programs and initiating new services at Ahtahkakoop and Thunderchild First Nations.
- Develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the federal government to continue their financial contributions for Aboriginal community-based justice programs.
- Continue to update and produce program materials.
- Together with FSIN and the RCMP, deliver training to meet the needs of community and criminal justice personnel involved in community-based programs.
- Develop sound policy and actions to encourage local, regional and provincial approaches to community integration by engaging social care agents.
- Participate in the implementation of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* through policy and program delivery.
- Provide opportunities for community-based and Aboriginal agency staff to meet and enhance professional development.
- Host a conference for staff of community-based Victims Services and community justice programs to discuss future directions.

- Continue the ongoing Restorative Justice and Aboriginal Justice Evaluation Strategies with the Policy, Planning and Evaluation Branch by undertaking qualitative and quantitative information-gathering about objectives and program activities.
- Continue to offer presentations to local, provincial, and national groups about the Saskatchewan justice initiatives.
- Continue to provide national leadership as co-chair of the federal/provincial/ territorial Working Group on Restorative Justice.
- Participate in the federal/provincial/territorial discussions on the renewal of the federal Aboriginal Justice Strategy to secure a stable and complete funding mandate.
- Provide a leadership role nationally with the design of data collection and training for the Aboriginal Court Worker Program.

LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

The mandate of the Law Enforcement Services Branch is to maintain public order and safety. This is achieved by providing effective, impartial, and independent policing, coroners services, and private security programs that uphold the rule of law and protect the basic rights of individuals.

Saskatchewan Justice maintains public security and safety through its Law Enforcement Services Branch which:

- administers the legislation governing policing in the province;
- administers the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) contracts to provide provincial, Aboriginal, and municipal policing services;
- provides administrative support to the Saskatchewan Police Commission (which provides a separate annual report);
- administers the legislation regulating the private security industry; and
- provides coroners services.

The principal assets of law enforcement services are Department staff, police, and coroners who provide the services. In addition to Department staff, services are provided by 2,025 RCMP and municipal police officers, their support staff, and 160 coroners across the province.

Administration of Policing

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Continue to administer *The Police Act, 1990* and the RCMP provincial, municipal, and extended policing contracts.
- Continue to administer and to negotiate new Tripartite RCMP First Nations contracts for policing on reserves.
- Continue implementation of the RCMP Models of Policing.
- Implement the Redistribution of RCMP Municipal Policing Costs project.
- Work with Municipal Government and SaskTel to implement province-wide 911.
- Administer the Serious Crime projects in Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert, Moose Jaw, Weyburn and Estevan.
- Administer the Serious and Habitual Youth Offender Comprehensive Action Program (SHOCAP) in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Effectively administered *The Police Act, 1990*, the legal framework for policing in Saskatchewan, including communicating with and co-ordinating the efforts of police services throughout the province. This included administration of the provincial contract to provide RCMP services to urban municipalities with a population of less than 500, First Nations communities not covered by specific community tripartite agreements, and the Northern Saskatchewan Administration District. It also included "municipal" and "extended" policing contracts to provide RCMP services to 103 urban municipalities with populations of over 500.

- Effectively administered a First Nations Framework Agreement, 28 community tripartite agreements, and negotiated two new community tripartite agreements to police the Moosomin-Saulteaux and the Cowessess-Kahkiwistahaw First Nations. Forty-five of the 72 First Nations in Saskatchewan, involving over 75 per cent of the population living on reserves, are now policed under these community tripartite agreements.
- Continued implementation of the RCMP "Models of Policing" project approved in 1997.
- Implement the recommendations of the Task Force on Policing and the Administration of Justice for Redistribution of RCMP Municipal Policing Costs.
- Worked with municipal governments, SaskTel, and a number of municipal and health organizations to implement a province-wide 911 program.
- Implemented the new Serious Crime projects in Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert, Moose Jaw, Weyburn and Estevan.
- Implemented the new Serious and Habitual Youth Offender Comprehensive Action Program (SHOCAP) in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert.
- Reviewed *The Police Act, 1990*, to update the public complaint and discipline process for municipal police services.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Continue administering *The Police Act, 1990* and the province's RCMP contracts.
- Continue administration and negotiations for new Tripartite RCMP First Nations contracts for policing on reserves.
- Continue assisting First Nation Administered Police Services.
- Continue implementation of the RCMP Models of Policing.
- Continue the RCMP cost redistribution program.
- Continue to work with municipal governments and SaskTel to implement province-wide 911.
- Continue the Serious Crime projects in Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert, Moose Jaw, Weyburn, Estevan and RCMP.
- Continue the Serious Habitual Youth Offender Comprehensive Action Program (SHOCAP) in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert.
- Work with the RCMP, Public Prosecutions, Community Services, Court Services and Corrections to advance the Northern Saskatchewan Strategy and implement community training to support the Memorandum of Understanding with New North communities.
- Continue to implement migration of the prisoner escort and court security duties to the province.
- Implement a video conferencing program to reduce prisoner escorts.

RCMP Provincial Policing Service

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Continue provincial policing programs.
- Continue implementation of the new First Nations tripartite policing agreements and helping First Nations communities establish their own First Nations Administered Policing Services.
- Continue implementation of the Models of Policing proposals.
- Implement migration of prisoner holding and escort services to the province.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Provided policing services to most Saskatchewan people outside the major cities through detachments and offices in 125 locations with 762 provincial, 102 First Nations, 210.5 municipal and 116 federal RCMP positions.
- Policed all Saskatchewan First Nation locations and northern communities through the First Nations Tripartite Policing Agreement. Two new tripartite agreements were signed bringing the total to 30, covering 45 First Nation communities. One all-Aboriginal troop completed cadet training in 2000, one is currently in training, and there are

plans in place for another Aboriginal troop for the fall of 2001. The File Hills Agency Chief of Police is being assisted by the RCMP in the transition to a stand-alone First Nations policing service in 2003.

- Began the Models of Policing proposals for amalgamating detachments in September 1997. The RCMP moved from 116 detachments and eight satellites to 73 larger host and stand-alone detachments and 46 smaller community detachments. Three, one-person community detachments had a police service delivery change and five town police departments, through consultation and the request of the communities, chose the RCMP as the police service provider.
- Advanced the prisoner and escort services. Two Pilatis aircraft have replaced three Twin Otters to perform escort duties. Most of the Sheriff's departments have completed training and are now conducting prisoner escorts in Regina and Saskatoon.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Continue with current programs and initiate new crime prevention programs that focus on youth at an early age and aimed at root causes for youth offenders and the youth at risk in our communities.
- Continue combatting organized crime by ensuring our intelligence-gathering systems are effective and being utilized properly, and enhance awareness for intelligence data and the importance of submissions by RCMP personnel.
- Continue working closely and expand contacts with partners and, in particular, other law enforcement agencies on key enforcement priorities.
- Continue to use alternative justice options at every opportunity to provide better solutions for the offender, the victim, and the community.

Criminal Code Actual Offences
RCMP Provincial Policing Jurisdiction (Excludes Municipal Policing)

One of the primary indicators used in measuring police activity levels is the number of Criminal Code offences. Saskatchewan has the highest provincial crime rate in Canada, and is one of two Canadian provinces where crime is still growing in a nation where crime has generally been decreasing since 1991. Saskatchewan has a growing at-risk-youth population in comparison to other jurisdictions where the at-risk-youth populations are generally declining.

Also, the statistics do not adequately reflect the increased time required for investigation of more complex cases such as increased disclosure of sexual assaults. The following table has been compiled from RCMP data:

Criminal Code Occurrences	1998	1999	2000	2001	% Var. 2000-2001
Persons	9,014	9,472	9,952	10,808	8.60
Property	27,134	24,556	25,022	22,837	-8.73
Other	30,754	31,893	34,632	37,814	9.19
Sub Total	**66,902**	**65,921**	**69,606**	**71,459**	**2.66**
Federal					
Federal Drugs	2,281	2,610	2,314	3,063	32.37
Other Federal	4,559	4,999	4,639	4,859	4.74
Sub Total	**6,840**	**7,609**	**6,953**	**7,922**	**13.94**
Provincial					
General	9,733	9,598	9,901	11,823	19.41
Liquor	17,702	15,623	13,031	12,707	-2.49
Traffic	79,332	74,917	71,437	87,244	22.13
Sub Total	**106,767**	**100,138**	**94,369**	**111,774**	**18.44**
Municipal	**3,943**	**4,827**	**4,414**	**4,370**	**-1.0**
Grand Total	**184,452**	**178,495**	**175,342**	**195,525**	**11.51**

Criminal Code cases continue to rise, while provincial liquor and traffic charges have dropped. The Criminal Code cases tend to be reported by the public, where the provincial statute cases are largely influenced by the level of police enforcement. The high level of RCMP vacancies in 1999 and 2000 was a major influence in the decline in liquor and traffic enforcement charges. As of January, 2000/01, the RCMP is back to its full strength, and it is expected this situation may change in 2001.

Regulation of Private Security Industry

Governing legislation includes:

- *The Private Investigators and Security Guards Act, 1997*; and
- *The Private Investigators and Security Guards Regulations.*

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Continue licensing and regulating the private security industry in Saskatchewan.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Administered *The Private Investigators and Security Guards Act,* licensed and regulated the private security industry in Saskatchewan. This involves screening applicants for licenses to ensure persons working in the industry are of good character and ensuring that companies and individuals are complying with the legislation.
- Implementation of the new *Private Investigators and Security Guards Act, 1997* started on October 1, 2000 with inclusion of the Corps of Commissionaires, Armoured Car Services, and a new training and examination process.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Continue to administer *The Private Investigators and Security Guards Act, 1997.*
- Continue to implement the new requirements for training and equipment under the legislation.
- Administer required security guard examinations.
- Visit all licensed companies in Saskatchewan.
- Ensure compliance with licensing requirements through effective enforcement activities and initiatives.

The Private Investigators and Security Guards Act Licensed Issued - One Year Licenses

Year	Employee New	Employee Renewal	Employee Replaced	Business New	Business Renewal
1997/98	719	470	10	13	51
1998/99	792	459	56	19	55
1999/00	742	415	33	18	43
2000/01	1,359	518	93	12	59
2001/02	1,095	1,464	73	12	58
Total	**4,707**	**3,326**	**265**	**74**	**266**
5-Year Average	**941**	**665**	**53**	**15**	**53**

The Private Investigators and Security Guards Act Licensed Issued - 30 Day Temporary Licenses

Year	Employee New	Employee Renewal	Employee Replaced
2000/01	198	4	2
2001/02	596	25	9

*Temporary licenses came into effect on October 1, 2000.

Coroners Services

Coroners Services investigates all unnatural and unexplained deaths as required by *The Coroners Act, 1999*, and, where appropriate, makes recommendations to appropriate persons, agencies, or departments of government in an effort to prevent similar deaths in the future.

The client group of the Coroner's office includes:

- 160 coroners;
- families of the deceased;
- lawyers and insurance agencies that represent the families of deceased;
- police and other investigative agencies;
- government agencies and private industry that promote wellness and safety programs;
- family physicians of the deceased; and
- the media.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Continue investigations, hold inquests, and provide information as necessary to meet the Act's requirements.
- Continue to work with the Child Death Advisory Committee to assist in the prevention of child deaths.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Investigated 1,437 unnatural/unexplained deaths by 160 coroners, with seven public inquests held, including two inquests ordered by the Minister of Justice
- Continued to be an active member of the Child Death Advisory Committee.
- Examined and compared alternative death investigation processes in other provincial jurisdictions, including the Medical Examiner systems, to Saskatchewan's lay coroners system.
- Conducted training workshops around the province to familiarize coroners with *The Coroners Act, 1999* and *The Coroners Regulations*, proclaimed on June 1, 2000.
- Routinely submitted recommendations for preventable deaths to appropriate agencies, ministries of government, and suitable publishers.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Conduct investigations, hold inquests, and provide information as necessary to meet the objectives of the Act.
- Work with the Child Death Advisory Committee to assist in preventing child death and to establish a multi-disciplinary working committee to review specific child deaths as presented by the Chief Coroner and/or the Children's Advocate.
- Analyze other provinces' sudden death investigation systems to consider establishing a forensic pathologist position(s), a full-time chief coroner, and full-time investigational staff.
- Identify and report recommendations to prevent death and to enhance community safety.
- Report statistical information on death investigations to appropriate agencies such as the Departments of Social Services, Health, Labour, Indian Child and Family Services, the Red Cross and the Traffic Information Research Foundation of Canada to assist in awareness and prevention programs.

Coroners Case Load 1998-2001

Year	Natural	Accident	Suicide	Homicide	Unknown	Total
1997	991	364	147	29	16	1,547
1998	1,030	340	117	35	15	1,537
1999	1,025	380	124	13	15	1,557
2000	1,047	343	129	24	21	1,564
2001	**934**	**314**	**109**	**28**	**52***	**1,437**
5-Year Avg	1,006	348	125	26	23	1,528

*Thirty cases remain under investigation. Twenty-two cases are undetermined.

VICTIMS SERVICES

Victims Services has the primary responsibility for assisting victims involved in the criminal justice system in Saskatchewan. Victims' needs are directly related to their involvement in the criminal justice system and may include:

- information on the justice system and assistance with proceeding through the criminal justice process; and
- compensation to offset expenses directly resulting from violent crime.

Those victims of reported crime who come to the attention of the justice system are the first priority of the program. Initiatives for victims of unreported crime and at-risk individuals are also considered important and are supported to the extent that resources are available. Special emphasis is placed on meeting the needs of more vulnerable individuals such as children and persons with disabilities.

In order to increase understanding about the needs of victims of crime and ensure basic services are available to meet their needs throughout Saskatchewan, the Victims Services Program offers a range of direct supports, such as:

- crisis intervention services;
- specialized victim services for special target groups such as victims of domestic violence and child and adult victims of sexual abuse;
- victim/witness services;
- victims compensation;
- Aboriginal initiatives; and
- the Victim Impact Statement Program.

Underlying these direct services are other initiatives that improve understanding and increase awareness of the needs of victims and help ensure a comprehensive and cooperative response. These indirect supports include:

- education and training;
- co-ordination of services;
- research and evaluation initiatives; and
- prevention of victimization programming.

The governing legislation of the Victims Services program is *The Victims of Crime Act, 1995* and *The Victims of Crime Regulations, 2002.*

Total FTE Establishment	
Administration	6
Compensation	2
Restitution	3
Victim/Witness Support	4.5
Family Violence Manager	1
Total FTEs	**16.5**

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Continue effective and efficient stewardship of the Victims Fund to maximize funding for programs and services for victims of crime by:
  - monitoring provincial and federal surcharge imposition and collection;
  - monitoring investment of the Victims Fund to maximize revenue;
  - monitoring expenditures in order to balance revenue and expenditures;
  - informing key stakeholders of *Criminal Code* amendments affecting surcharge impositions; and
  - administering Proceeds of Crime monies deposited in the Victims Fund.
- Meet the immediate needs of victims of crime for timely information, support, and referral by:
  - ensuring adequate funding for Police-affiliated Victims Services programs;
  - pursuing the provincial component of federal funding and assisting community organizations in accessing federal funding to enhance services to victims of crime;
  - effectively managing contracts with community agencies delivering services to victims; and
  - pursuing funding for development of a security model for the database for Police-affiliated Aboriginal Resource Officer and Victim/Witness Services programs.

- Meet the unique needs of more vulnerable victims of crime by:
  - continuing to fund five specialized Victims Services programs;
  - continuing to co-manage the Saskatoon Centre for Children's Justice and Victims Services; and
  - continuing to contribute to the funding for the Regina Children's Justice Centre.

- Provide court orientation and support to victims and witnesses during their involvement with the criminal justice system by:
  - offering court orientation and support to those who are most vulnerable;
  - updating and distributing a Victim Impact Statement module for the Victims Services Volunteer training manual;
  - implementing a new database for the program;
  - conducting a survey of Victim/Witness and Police-affiliated Victims Services programs and compiling a report for the Court Facilities Review Committee;
  - opening more victim/witness waiting rooms in courthouses and softrooms in police detachments to allow for videotaping of interviews with children; and
  - providing training to rural staff and volunteers on adult court orientation.

- Provide payment for reasonable expenses resulting from a criminal act of personal violence by:
  - responding to applications for Victims Compensation in a timely manner;
  - preparing a new simplified and victim-friendly application form for victims compensation and amending regulations to replace the existing application;
  - continue developing the program database; and
  - amend the Policy and Procedures Manual to reflect changes in program direction or legislation.

- Develop new programs and effectively administer contracts for new Aboriginal initiatives by:
  - resolving funding issues for the Churchill River Region Victim Services Program;
  - assisting in resolving recruitment issues for the Buffalo Region Victims Services program;
  - pursuing recruitment of an Aboriginal person to the vacant Victim/Witness Coordinator Position in Prince Albert;
  - working with the communities of Stony Rapids and Black Lake to pursue services for victims of crime in the Athabasca Region; and
  - holding a roundtable with Aboriginal victims of crime and their families to discuss their needs.

- Educate the public and professionals about the needs of victims and how to respond in a helpful and compassionate way by:
  - providing financial assistance to funding agency staff to attend the National Organization for Victim Assistance conference in Edmonton;
  - continuing to offer multidisciplinary training on the Justice Response to Domestic Violence in communities across the province;
  - delivering training to rural staff and volunteers on adult court orientation and accompaniment;
  - delivering training on Victims Compensation to volunteers and new Coordinators;
  - responding to requests for presentations and training;
  - planning, organizing, promoting, and delivering a successful Victims Services Week 2001;
  - delivering training on family violence and Victims Services to recruit classes at the Saskatchewan Police College;
  - delivering training to recruit classes at RCMP Depot on issues relating to child victims in conjunction with the Department of Social Services and the Children's Justice Centre; and
  - printing and distributing quarterly updates to Victims Services funded agencies

- Promote a comprehensive and cooperative response to victims of crime by:
  - participating in federal/provincial/territorial meetings on victim's issues;
  - participating in a committee to guide the evaluation of a National Victims Initiative introduced by Justice Canada;
  - participating in inter-departmental meetings and consultations on victims issues;
  - meeting monthly with the RCMP; and
  - consulting regularly with other areas of Justice including Law Enforcement, Community Services, and Corrections.

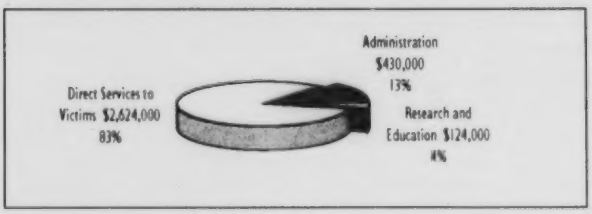
- Undertake research and evaluation related to the needs of victims of crime by:
  - commencing data collection on a Victims Services satisfaction survey and a site-specific survey of related programs;
  - obtaining federal funding for research on domestic violence; and

- collecting and monitoring regular qualitative and quantitative reporting from all funded agencies.

- Help to prevent victimization by educating and assisting those at risk by:
  - continuing to fund three "Children Who Witness Domestic Violence" programs and the Street Workers Advocacy Project, an anti-prostitution program; and
  - contributing to the Child Action Plan.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

Financial Management



- Total revenue for 2001-2002 was $3,120,980. (This includes surcharges, increase in surcharge receivables, interest, proceeds of crime and other miscellaneous revenue). The balance of the Victims Fund at March 31, 2002, totaled $3.797 million. This includes revenue held in reserve that accrued from 1989, when legislation allowed for the establishment of the Victims Fund, to 1992, when the Victims Services Program became operational. The above chart provides a breakdown for administration costs, research and education and direct services to victims.

- Surcharge allocation was monitored and showed that the level of federal surcharge remained the same while the provincial surcharge had a slight increase due to increased enforcement.

- Monitoring of the return on investment showed a return of $241,136 in revenue from an investment of approximately $3.3 million.

- Efforts to balance revenue and expenditures continued with a variance of $56,818.

- Proceeds of Crime totaling $44,504 were deposited into the Victims Fund in 2000-2001 and $21,112 was deposited in 2001-2002.

Crisis Intervention Services

- Enhanced funding for Police-affiliated Victims Services by providing a three per cent increase to salaries and benefits of those working in community-funded agencies and addressing their urgent requests for increased funding as resources allowed. A salary grid was also implemented and provided funding increase to some programs to bring equity across Police-Affiliated and Aboriginal Resource Officer programs.

- Managed 29 contracts with community agencies to ensure that services are available to 80 per cent of Saskatchewan's population.

- Accessed federal funding for the expansion of Regina Region Victim Services program to the Indian Head and Punnichy RCMP detachments. Provided this funding to the program through existing funding agreement and assisted the program in its expansion.

- Explored the establishment of services for victims of crime in the Athabasca area with the communities of Black Lake and Stony Rapids, the RCMP, and Federal representatives.

- Investigated the need and feasibility of providing Victims Services in Spiritwood in response to inquiries by the RCMP and the community.

- Worked with RCMP to facilitate a conference with RCMP Victim Services Coordinators and Aboriginal Resource Officers to address issues.

- Assisted individual programs with resolving issues.

Specialized Victim Services

- Provided funding for five specialized programs: the Domestic Violence Early Intervention Program (Family Services Regina), the Victim Support Worker Program (Saskatoon Sexual Assault Centre), the Sexual Assault Line (Regina Women's Community Centre), the Regina Children's Justice Centre, and the Saskatoon Centre for Children's Justice and Victim Services.

- Provided partial funding for the Moose Jaw Transition House to send one staff to speak at an international conference on "Children Who Witness Domestic Violence".

Victim/Witness Support

Age Group	Males			Females			Total		
Year	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
Children	29	56	51	66	53	64	95	109	115
Teenagers	61	56	75	128	130	142	189	186	217
Adults	63	79	97	299	403	387	362	482	484
Total	**153**	**191**	**223**	**493**	**586**	**593**	**646**	**777**	**816**

Victim/Witness Services

- Offered court orientation and support to those who are most vulnerable.
- Opened one softroom with videotape equipment at Kamsack RCMP detachment to help reduce the negative impact on children being interviewed by police, social services, and prosecutors.
- Accessed funding from the federal government for:
  - six court screens to protect children and other vulnerable witnesses when testifying in court;
  - two life-sized (child) puppets for use by Victim/Witness Coordinators when working with child victims/witnesses; and
  - the revision of Legalpix, a pictorial tool to help prepare witnesses with intellectual disabilities for court.
- Began pursuing the potential for establishing a child-friendly court in Regina.

Victims Compensation

- Amended regulations to improve the content of the Victims Compensation application form and preparing, drafted, and piloted the new form.
- Continued development of a program database.
- Amended the Policy and Procedures Manual to reflect changes in direction and legislation.

Victims Compensation Statistics

	2001/02	2000/01	1999/00
Applications Received	388	377	369
Applications Approved	341	334	332
Applications Denied	47	43	37
Total Amount Awarded	$385,527	$312,454	$370,728
Average Award	$1,130.57	$935.49	$1,116.65

Aboriginal Initiatives

- Effectively administered funding for eight Aboriginal Family Violence initiatives.
- Hosted a roundtable with Aboriginal victims of crime and their families to determine their perspective on what is going well for them in the justice system, what is not, and what their priorities for future action are.
- Assisted in resolving recruitment issues in Buffalo Narrows. A new Coordinator will begin work in April 2002.
- Made attempts to recruit an Aboriginal person to the position of Victim/Witness Coordinator in Prince Albert without success.
- Commenced discussions with Black Lake and Stony Rapids about establishing a Program(s) in the Athabasca region.

Education and Training

- Distributed approximately 8,500 brochures, posters, fact sheets, and bookmarks to community agencies and individuals.
- Held a successful Victims Services Week in November 2001.
- Provided 31 multidisciplinary training sessions to police, funded agency staff, and related community organizations in 20 communities on the Justice Response to Domestic Violence.
- Victim/Witness Coordinators provided seven training sessions to police-affiliated staff and volunteers on the needs of child victims/witnesses and how to prepare vulnerable victims for court.

- Provided training on Victims Compensation to staff and volunteers in six programs (in Prince Albert, Saskatoon, Moose Jaw, Northeast and Acquired Brain Injury Team in Regina and Saskatoon).
- Distributed quarterly updates to Victims Services funded agencies.
- Delivered three training sessions on family violence and two on Victims Services to students at the Saskatchewan Police College and RCMP recruits.
- Provided financial assistance to 17 funded agency staff and volunteers in attending the National Organization for Victim Assistance Conference in Edmonton.
- Completed revisions to Volunteer Victim Support Worker Training Manual on Adult Court Orientation.
- Updated the Victim Impact Statement module in the Victims Services Volunteer Training Manual.

Coordination

- Met monthly with the RCMP beginning in July 2001 to discuss and address issues of mutual concern.
- Consulted as appropriate with other areas of Justice on issues related to policy and procedures affecting victims of crime.
- Attended a conference in Halifax on Restorative Conferencing under the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* with nine other Justice and Social Services staff. The conferenece was funded by the federal government.
- Attended a Federal/Provincial/Territorial Family Violence Forum in Aylmer, Quebec.
- Participated in various interdepartmental committees.
- Attended four meetings each of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Working Group on Victims Issues and the FPT Directors of Victims Services.
- Organized and facilitated a meeting of the Northern staff including Coordinators, Assistant Coordinators, Aboriginal Resource Officers, Victim/Witness Coordinators and First Nations Caseworkers. Agenda included a discussion of issues and a presentation by the Medical Services Branch.
- Presented at the Aboriginal Justice Strategy National Workout in Edmonton, AB on "Victims Services and Community Justice: Finding the Right Balance" and "Challenges in Protecting Victims in Smaller Communities".

Research and Evaluation

- Hosted a roundtable with victims who are older or have disabilities to determine what is going well for them in the justice system, what is not, and what their priorities for future action are. The roundtable was attended by approximately thirty individuals including victims of crime, representatives of advocacy groups, front-line service providers and representatives from various areas of Justice.
- Began a survey on victims' satisfaction with the justice system and completed questionnaires with clients of twelve programs.
- Obtained federal funding for a tracking project on domestic violence.
- Collected and monitored regular qualitative and quantitative reporting from all funded agencies.
- Continued work on a security model for a new database for the Victim/Witness program.
- Conducted a survey of Victim/Witness and Police-affiliated Victims Services programs and prepared a report for the Court Facilities Review Committee on the conditions of court facilities from a victim's perspective.
- Participated as a member of the National Victims Initiative Evaluation Advisory Committee.

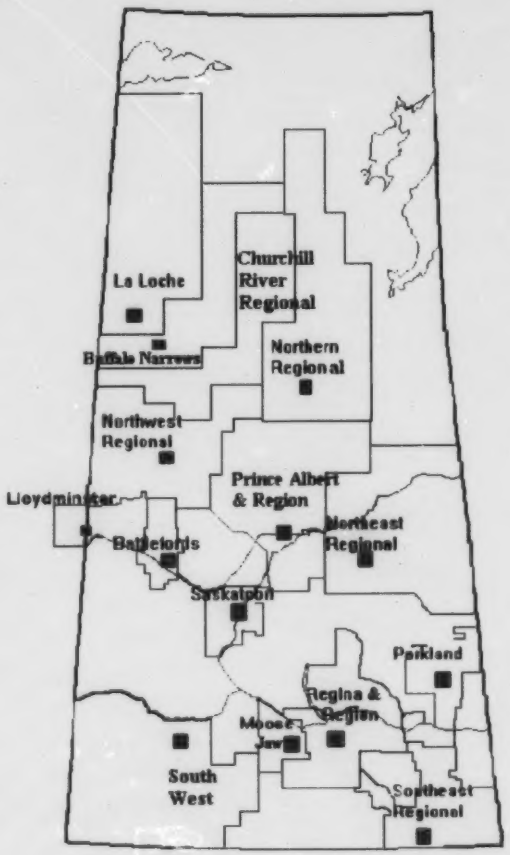
Prevention of Victimization Programming

- Provided financial support for seven projects through the involvement in the Child Action Plan - Prevention and Support Grant.
- Continued funding for three Children Who Witness Domestic Violence Programs and for an anti-prostitution program in Regina.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Effectively manage contracts with 41 community-based agencies.
- Complete the evaluation of Victims Services.
- Take appropriate action to improve our response to Aboriginal victims of crime and their families.
- Continue to provide support and assistance in the development of programs for victims in northern communities.
- Work towards the establishment of a child-friendly court in Regina.
- Train trainers to deliver ongoing multi-disciplinary workshops on how to effectively respond to domestic violence.
- Complete development and begin implementation of a database for Police-affiliated Victims Services, Victim/Witness Services and the Aboriginal Resource Officer Program.
- Pursue federal funding for an evaluation of the Victim Impact Statement program.
- Host a successful Victims Services Week 2002 to increase awareness and recognize the work of volunteers.

Community-based Police-affiliated Victims Services Programs



2001-2002 Police-affiliated Victims Services Programs

Program	Population Served	Communities Served[1]	Staffing	Volunteers	Funding Began	Victims Funding
Battlefords Victim Services	27,000	North Battleford, Battleford, and Glaslyn	1.5	10	Oct-94	$61,900
La Loche Victim Services	5,000	La Loche	1	1	May-94	$55,700
Lloydminster Regional Victim Services[2]	35,000	Lloydminster, Maidstone, Onion Lake, and Turtleford	1	20	Feb-98	$40,500
Moose Jaw and District Victim Services	34,000	Moose Jaw City and Moose Jaw RCMP Detachment	1.3	18	Jan-94	$54,600
Northeast Regional Victim Services	36,000	Tisdale, Melfort, Carrot River, Nipawin, Cumberland House, Hudson Bay, and Porcupine Plain	2	34	Oct-95	$104,300
Northern Region Victim Services	8,000	La Ronge	2	3	Aug-96	$98,700
Northwest Regional Victim Services	16,000	Meadow Lake, Green Lake, Loon Lake, Pierceland and St. Walburg	1	11	Oct-95	$55,600
Parkland Victims Services	32,000	Yorkton, Broadview and Kamsack	2	31	Apr-93	$115,600
Prince Albert Regional Victim Services	35,000	Prince Albert Rural, Shellbrook, Birch Hills, Big River, Smeaton and Wakaw	1.2	23	Jul-97	$61,400
Prince Albert Victim Services	36,000	Prince Albert City	1.5	42	Jun-94	$108,000
Regina Region Victim Services	25,000	Regina Rural, Avonlea, Fort Qu Appelle, Indian Head, Lumsden, Milestone, Punnichy, Southey and Strasbourg	2.2	30	Oct-94	$105,400
Regina Victim Services	193,000	Regina City	4	20	May-93	$159,600
Saskatoon Victim Services	215,000	Saskatoon City and RCMP Detachments of Saskatoon and Warman	5	50	Oct-92	$230,875
Southeast Regional Victim Services	33,000	Estevan City and Estevan Rural, Carnduff, Fillmore, Kipling and Carlyle	1.1	15	Oct-94	$56,700
Southwest Victim Services	35,000	Swift Current, Cabri, Gravelbourg, Gull Lake, Kyle, Maple Creek, Morse, Ponteix, and Shaunovan	1	27	Dec-93	$57,700
Total Population of Existing Programs	**765,000**	**Total Volunteers for Victim Services Programs**		**335**		**$1,366,575**

[1] Communities served category identifies RCMP detachment police service jurisdictions.

[2] The Lloydminster Program was cost-shared with Alberta.

COURT SERVICES

The Department of Justice provides court and dispute resolution and related support services through three branches:

- Court Services Branch;
- Maintenance Enforcement Branch; and
- Mediation Services Branch.

Budget: 30.8 million
FTEs: 362.4

COURT SERVICES BRANCH

Court Services Branch is primarily responsible for providing court services to all of the courts in the province (the Provincial Court, the Court of Queen's Bench which includes the Family Law Division, and the Court of Appeal). This includes court reporting/recording and sheriff services as well as those services related to court administration. The Branch acts in a dual capacity in providing these services to Saskatchewan's justice system since it functions as both a branch of government and as a servant of the court.

As a branch of government, Court Services Branch is responsible for providing and enhancing an efficient and effective forum for just and equitable dispute resolution by the courts of Saskatchewan.

As a servant of the court, the Branch is responsible to the Chief Justices and the Chief Judge of the province for providing administrative services to the judiciary. Court Services, in its capacity as a servant of the court, is also responsible for carrying out the orders of the court.

The court system comprises the Court of Appeal, the Court of Queen's Bench, and the Provincial Court.

The Court of Appeal consists of the Chief Justice of Saskatchewan and eight other Appeal Court justices, all of whom are appointed federally. The Court of Appeal sits at Regina and Saskatoon.

The Court of Queen's Bench is the superior court of record for Saskatchewan. The Court consists of the Chief Justice and 32 other judges, all of whom are appointed federally. The Court of Queen's Bench sits in 13 judicial centres with permanent registries.

The Provincial Court of Saskatchewan is a court of record of limited jurisdiction dealing with small claims, family and youth, and criminal matters. The Provincial Court consists of a Chief Judge and 46 Provincial Court judges. Judges are appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

In 2001/02, the Provincial Court sat in 13 locations with resident judiciary and permanent facilities, and visited 18 other locations on circuit.

The primary resources of the Branch are staff resources.

The significant pieces of legislation governing Court Services Branch are:

- *The Court of Appeal Act*;
- *The Queen's Bench Act*;
- *The Provincial Court Act*;
- *The Court Officials Act*;
- *The Recording of Evidence by Sound Machine Act*;
- *The Administration of Estates Act*;
- *The Jury Act*;
- *The Justice of the Peace Act*;
- *The Small Claims Act*; and
- *The Traffic Safety Court of Saskatchewan Act*.

Some of the other statutes that determine the operations of Court Services Branch are:

- *The Criminal Code;*
- *The Summary Offences Procedure Act*;
- *The Executions Act*;
- *The Exemptions Act*;

- *The Saskatchewan Farm Land Security Act*;
- *The Attachment of Debts Act*;
- *The Distress Act*;
- *The Divorce Act*;
- *The Children's Law Act*;
- *The Child and Family Services Act*;
- *The Family Maintenance Act*;
- *The Marriage Act*;
- *The Commissioner for Oaths Act*; and
- *The Notaries Public Act*.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Organize a national conference in September 2001 in Saskatoon. The "Trial Courts of the Future" conference will examine the evolving role of trial courts and how they serve the needs of Canadians, including options and constraints for structural reform. This conference is the first of its kind in Canada and will be attended by members of the judiciary from all levels of Court in Canada, senior court administrators, academics, and other members of the legal profession.
- Take a lead role in the implementation of the Cree Court in Northern Saskatchewan. It is expected that this Court will be fully operational by October 1, 2001, and will provide services in the Cree language. The Cree Court Party includes a Cree-speaking judge, legal aid lawyer, prosecutor, court clerk, and a translator.
- Construct a "circle court" in the Saskatoon Provincial Court. This circle court will be used as a therapeutic court for youth involved in crime and will provide the mechanism for the court to act in a non-traditional role—that of a participant in a therapeutic approach to dealing with offending. It is expected that, over time, this court will play a role in responding to underlying causes of criminal or other inappropriate behavior.
- Participate in a review of the justice of the peace program in Saskatchewan. This will include a review of the existing justice of the peace structure, as well as a review of justice of the peace programs in other jurisdictions. In particular, the review will concentrate on improving Provincial Court and justice of the peace services in northern and Aboriginal communities.
- Begin a process to respond to the recommendations of the court facility/security report that was finalized in the spring of 2001. In particular, emphasis will be placed on improving the court facilities and security at Provincial Court circuit points.
- Continue to work with Aboriginal communities to accommodate requests for the holding of Court on Reserve. In particular, emphasis will be placed on setting up new Cree Court circuit points on Reserve.
- Initiate a review of the Jury Fee payment processes, and develop an option paper in regard to remuneration provided to members of juries.
- Continue to explore and implement innovative methods for improving the collection rate on outstanding fines. This includes evaluating the cost benefits of establishing an internal fine collection unit, with the mandate to use civil remedies for the enforcement of the payment of fines.
- Participate in a national review to set guidelines for court administrators across Canada to address the needs of self-represented litigants. The Branch will also review internal procedures for assisting self-represented litigants and will identify other self-help materials that would be of assistance to the ever growing number of self-represented litigants in our Courts.
- In collaboration with other Justice partners, initiate a review of access to justice issues as they relate to Small Claims Court and other Civil Courts.
- Establish a mandatory parent education pilot program in Yorkton and Saskatoon in the fall of 2001. This is a continuation of the parent education program that has been offered throughout the province on a voluntary basis since the Family Law Division was established in 1994.
- Change procedures for completion of custody and access assessments, with focus on "hearing the voices of the children". These changes have come about after extensive consultation with the judiciary, family law support services staff, and members of the public.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Took a lead role in organizing the Trial Courts of the Future national conference that was scheduled to take place in Saskatoon on September 13 and 14, 2001. Because of the world disaster which occurred on September 11, 2001, it was necessary to cancel the conference. The conference was rescheduled to May 16 and 17, 2002, which resulted in the conference being organized twice in the 2001/2002 fiscal year. Attendees at the conference included judges from all across Canada, academics, senior court administrators, justice officials and other legal professionals interested in the evolving role of trial courts and how they serve the needs of Canadians.

- Took a lead role in the implementation of the Cree Court in Northern Saskatchewan. On October 1, 2001, a Cree-speaking Circuit Court Party was established in four Provincial Court locations in northern Saskatchewan. The court party travels out of Prince Albert and includes a Cree-speaking judge, prosecutor, a Cree Legal Aid counsel, two cree-speaking court clerks, one of which serves as an interpreter, and a cree-speaking probation officer. This Cree Circuit Court Party attends court eight days a month at Sandy Bay, Pelican Narrows, Big River First Nation, and Montreal Lake.

- Constructed a "circle court" in the Saskatoon Provincial Court. This circle courtroom is used regularly as a therapeutic court for the victims and families of youth involved in crime. One of the purposes of this youth circle court is to respond to the rising level of youth recidivism and incarceration in Saskatoon. Many of the youth who accept responsibility or are convicted after trial have complex backgrounds. The youth circle court provides a more informal and relaxed environment for examination of background factors such as family life, educational status, community and professional supports. The Prince Albert Provincial Court facility in Prince Albert also has a circle court for carrying out sentencing circles and other forms of court processes that are therapeutic in nature.

- Was involved in discussions with the Office of the Supervising Justice of the Peace about a review of the justice of the peace program in Saskatchewan. Some preliminary work was carried out in regard to the gathering of information about justice of the peace programs across Canada. The Office of the Supervising Justice of the Peace has established a protocol for the appointment of Aboriginal justices of the peace and work is underway with SIAST officials to develop a certificate program for Aboriginal people who are interested in obtaining work in the Courts, or more explicitly express an interest in the justice of the peace program. Justice representatives, representatives from the Provincial Court judiciary, and the Supervising Justice of the Peace, were involved in preliminary discussions with Prince Albert Grand Council about the development of an Aboriginal justice of the peace project, similar to the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO) model. Representatives from the Provincial Court and the Office of the Supervising Justice of the Peace also met with Meadow Lake Tribal Council representatives to discuss the role of Aboriginal justices of the peace in the Meadow Lake Tribal Council area. This work will continue in the 2002-03 fiscal year.

- Representatives from the Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation, Provincial Court Judges, Queen's Bench Judges, and Court Services conducted a comprehensive review of all court facilities in Saskatchewan, including Provincial Court circuit points, in December 2000 and January 2001. The review committee developed standards for all court facilities and identified facilities that did not meet the standards. A report was prepared containing findings and recommendations, pertaining to both the issues of court facilities and security for users of the court facilities. The Provincial Court Commission held a public hearing on September 5, 2001, for the purpose of receiving the report. The members of the Commission unanimously concurred with the recommendations contained in the Report, and recognized the fiscal constraints that would limit the Government of Saskatchewan from implementing all recommendations immediately. The Provincial Court Commission recommended the establishment of a working group to carry forward the recommendations of the Report, with a request that innovative and alternate methods for the delivery of justice throughout the Province of Saskatchewan be explored wherever possible. A working committee was established in October, 2001, and has met on a number of occasions since that time.

- Worked with Carry the Kettle First Nations Elders Council to make the necessary modifications to the Court facility in that community to allow for court sittings to be brought back to the Reserve, effective October 1, 2001. The Cree Court Circuit Party also began court sittings at Big River First Nation on October 1, 2001.
- Prepared an option paper on the jury fee payment process, with particular emphasis on the remuneration paid to members of the jury. It is expected the Jury Fee Regulations will be reviewed and updated in the 2002/2003 fiscal year.
- Continued to explore methods for improving the collection rate on outstanding fines. A payment option for fines through the use of the Justice website was developed and will be implemented in the 2002/2003 fiscal year. System enhancements were also undertaken to allow for the provision of better information to the Court for those offenders who have unpaid fines. The bad debt expense relating to uncollected fines was reduced substantially in the 2001/2002 fiscal year.
- Participated in a national review, organized by the Association of Canadian Court Administrators, in regard to the establishment of guidelines for court administrators across Canada to better address the needs of self-represented litigants. This work will continue in the 2002/2003 fiscal year, including the preparation of additional self-help kits for family law litigants.
- The review of the civil mandatory mediation program and small claims court will commence in 2002/2003.
- Voluntary public information sessions about the affects of separation and divorce have been offered in Regina and Saskatoon since 1995. Since that time, sessions have been expanded to other locations of the Province, and are offered in Prince Albert, North Battleford, Swift Current, Moose Jaw, Weyburn and Estevan. A mandatory parent education pilot program was established in Yorkton and Saskatoon in October 2001.
- Family Law Support Services received a number of orders for "hearing the voices of children" in the 2001/2002 fiscal year. This focus on the children has expedited the process and reduced the backlog for full custody and access assessments.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Develop a French Language Court Services policy. Representatives from Saskatchewan Justice (Court Services and Prosecutions), Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission, and the Office of French Language Co-ordination will work with Association des Juristes d'expressions Francaise de la Saskatchewan (AJEFS) to make improvements to the provision of French Language Services in the Courts in Saskatchewan, taking into consideration the AJEFS' proposals in the March and November 2001 briefs submitted to the Minister of Justice.
- Participate in an evaluation of the Cree Court Circuit to increase our knowledge of the Cree-speaking Circuit Court, its procedures and outcomes. The evaluation will identify the model's strengths and weaknesses and provide information to guide future planning within Saskatchewan Justice and Saskatchewan Legal Aid.
- Organize the rescheduled Trial Courts of the Future conference, to be held in Saskatoon on May 16 and 17, 2002. It is expected there will be 320 attendees at the conference, representing all the Canadian provinces and territories, as well as representatives from Great Britain and the United States.
- Participate in the evaluation of the civil mandatory mediation pilot, which is being chaired by the Director, Dispute Resolution Office, Saskatchewan Justice. The goal of this process is to evaluate the impacts and qualities of the program, focusing on the responses from those most impacted--the people of Saskatchewan and their lawyers. Courts Services is a partner in the civil mediation process, and therefore will be represented on the Steering Committee overseeing the evaluation.
- Review options in regard to implementing video-conferencing in the Courts. It is expected that video-conferencing will be installed in the Saskatoon Provincial Court in the 2002/2003 fiscal year, as well as possibly in two northern court locations.
- Expand the use of digital recording in the Saskatoon Courts.
- Implement new processes for the payment of jurors in the 2002/2003 fiscal year.

- Establish a Union Management Committee as a positive step toward resolving workplace issues in the Courts. Representatives from Court Offices throughout the province will participate on this committee.
- Establish a Steering Committee to oversee the work of the Court Facility and Security Committee. The Court Facility and Security Committee will finalize its strategic plan and establish a short-term and long-range plan for addressing the recommendations in the Report.
- Take a lead role in implementing procedures to improve equity employment in the Courts and Civil Justice Division.
- Implement a pilot project in the North Battleford Provincial Court to improve the collection of fines. This project will be implemented with the co-operation of the Prosecutions Branch. Court Services will also implement the online payment of fines through the Justice website.
- Participate on the Federal/Provincial/Territorial adhoc working group on structural reform of courts. This includes taking an active role in organizing meetings, and preparing materials for the committee's review. The FPT working group will prepare an interim report by November 30, 2002.
- Work with the RCMP, Corrections, and Law Enforcement Services to establish a workplan for assuming additional responsibility for security of the Courts and transportation of prisoners. At the present time, deputy sheriffs provide security at the Saskatoon, Prince Albert, Regina, North Battleford and Moose Jaw Provincial Courts, as well as the Saskatoon, Prince Albert and Regina Court Houses. Prisoner transportation is provided by deputy sheriffs in Regina and Saskatoon.
- Review interpreter services provided at northern court locations for people who do not understand or speak English.
- Review the role of Small Claims Court in resolving civil disputes.

MAINTENANCE ENFORCEMENT BRANCH

The Maintenance Enforcement Branch was established in 1986 to collect maintenance payments (mainly child support) as it was estimated that approximately 85 per cent of court orders or agreements for support were in default. The program now collects payments in over 75 per cent of cases.

If a custodial parent is receiving assistance (SAP), monies collected by AEMO are transferred to the Department of Social Services.

The mission of Maintenance Enforcement is to collect child and spousal support and improve attitudes and accountability towards family support obligations.

The client groups of the Maintenance Enforcement Program include:

- payors of family support;
- recipients of family support and their dependant children;
- members of the Bar; and
- third parties such as employers, banks and pension administrators.

The governing legislation of the Maintenance Enforcement Branch is:

- *The Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act, 1997*;
- *The Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act, 1996*; and
- *The Family Maintenance Act, 1997.*

Effective April 1, 2002, the Maintenance Enforcement Branch was combined with Family Law Support Services, which was previously located in Court Services, to create a new branch called Family Justice Services Branch. The new Branch provides family justice services to assist parents, their children, and the court system deal with the challenges of family breakdown and separation in the healthiest possible way.

Services include: parent eduction, court ordered custody and access assessments, court ordered supervised access, and maintenance enforcement.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Review communication procedures for Maintenance Enforcement clients. Many people experience difficulty contacting the office by phone.
- The Director will work with other western Canada programs to pilot a project whereby custodial parents in Saskatchewan can access the automated phone systems of the province where the payor lives.
- Determine the viability of setting up a Special Investigation Unit within the office to try to locate hard to find payors.
- Work with the Federal Department of Justice to see if they will share in the costs of computers and printers to link directly into their garnishment, licence denial (i.e. passport) and search systems.

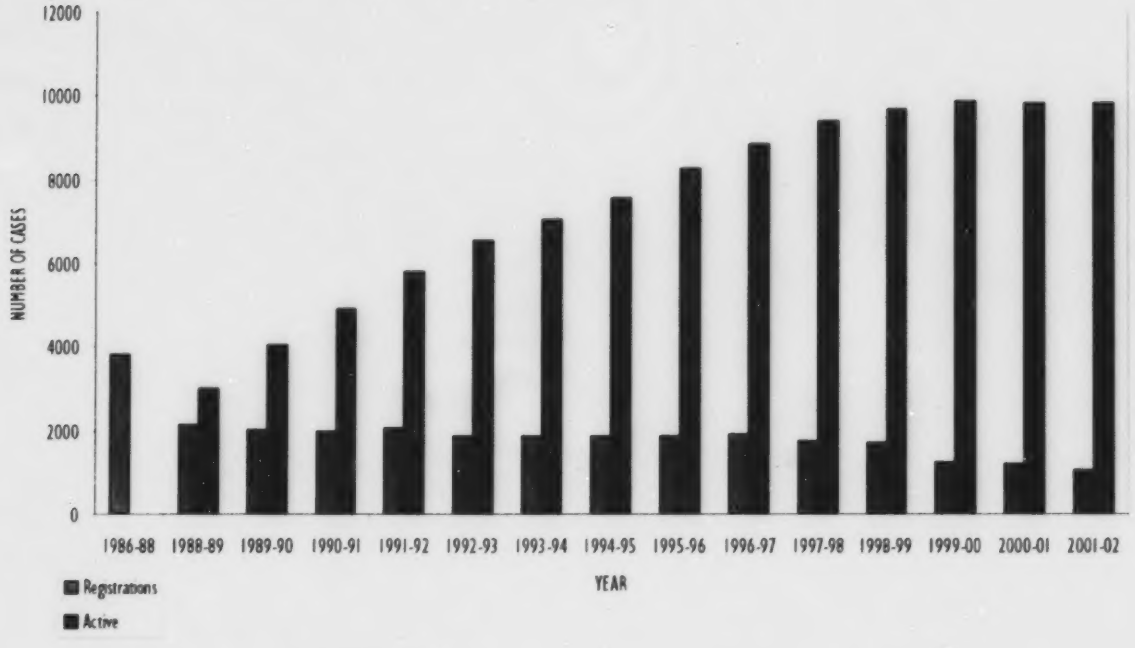
2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Hired two additional enforcement officers, as well as an additional telephone person to give better service to clients.
- The Provinces and Territories created a working group to explore ways to communicate with all Canadian clients using new technology.
- Reached an agreement with the Federal Government and shared the cost of two computers and two printers. The equipment will make garnishing and searching for non-payors much faster and easier.
- The Director worked with the Federal Government and other Provinces and Territories to amend the Bank Act to simplify finding non-payors bank accounts.

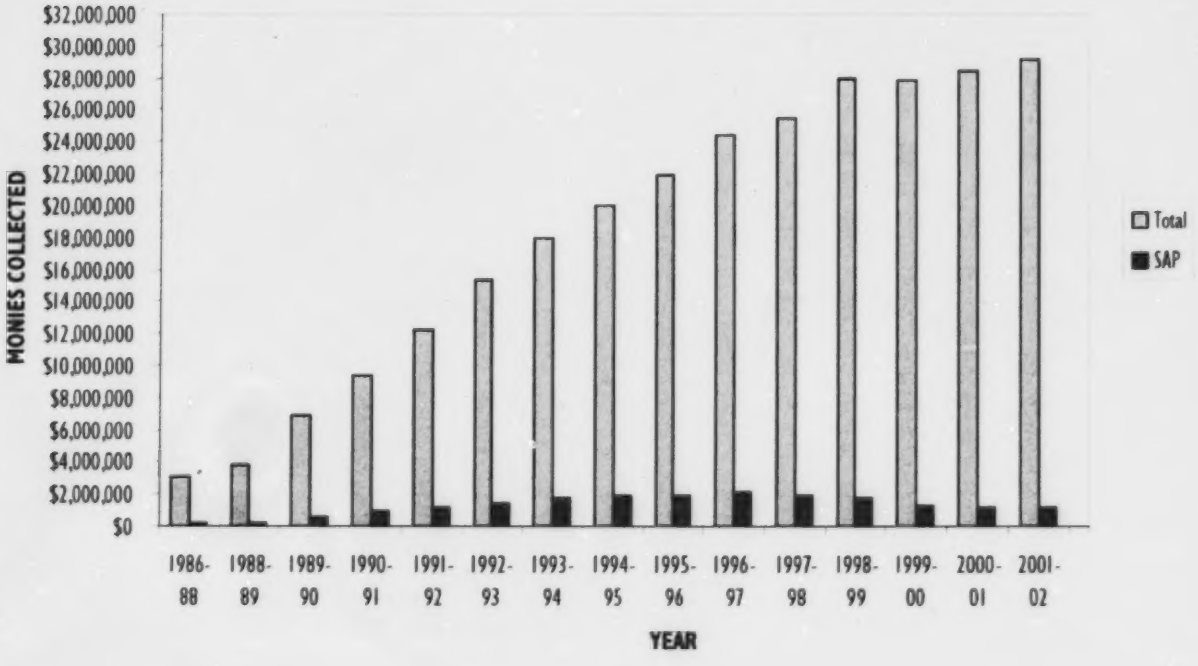
2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Develop and implement a pilot project to assist low income families change their court orders where required.
- Work with the Department of Social Services and Legal Aid to obtain more court orders for single parents on social assistance, as well as improve collection rates for Maintenance Enforcement clients.
- Director to work with other jurisdictions and the Family Law Committee to improve legislation to help collect maintenance when non-payors move from province to province.
- Introduce and implement *The Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Amendment Act* to better assist the Maintenance Enforcement Officers collect from individuals who try to avoid making payments, including those who own companies.
- Develop a new component of the parent education program focusing on families that are experiencing high conflict.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the parent education program established to help parents and children deal with the difficulties of family breakdown.
- Work on improving supports with legal groups and community agencies that deliver family justice services.
- Introduce and implement *The Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act* to streamline the process for obtaining, varying, and enforcing support orders.

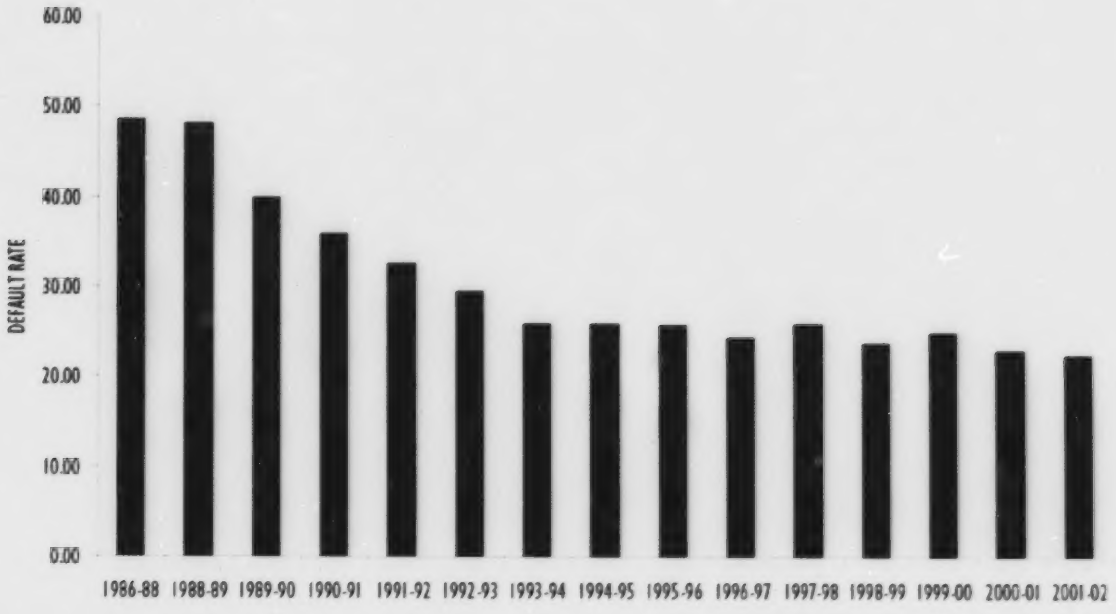
Registrations Received/Total Number of Active AEMO Cases



SAP and Total Monies Collected by AEMO



Default Rate for AEMO



MEDIATION SERVICES

Mediation Services Branch provides program, policy, advisory, training services, and specific mediation and facilitation services to enhance the understanding and accessibility of collaborative problem-solving and decision-making.

The Branch provides:

- legislated mediation services in farmer-lender disputes;
- a non-family civil mediation program in the judicial centres of Regina, Saskatoon, Prince Albert, and Swift Current under the *Queen's Bench Act*;
- policy, advisory, and training services to individuals, organizations, First Nation Tribal Councils, government departments and agencies in relation to consensus building, organizational disputes and collective bargaining, as well as criminal, civil and family disputes; and
- mediation and facilitation services on a fee-for-services basis or, where legislated, to parties at no cost.

The client group of the Branch includes:

- court litigants;
- families experiencing separation or divorce;
- farmers and creditors;
- members of the legal community;
- law enforcement agencies;
- First Nations, government departments, agencies and Crown Corporations;
- local government organizations (Health Boards, School Boards, Municipal Government); and
- members of the general public.

Through the provision of services, the Branch helps government implement collaborative problem-solving processes including facilitation, mediation, interest-based negotiation and consensus building in conjunction with or as an alternative to, judicial, administrative or legislative decision-making.

Mediation Services has two strategic objectives that form the basis for the staff's everyday work:

- changing the way government does business internally and how it interacts with organizations and with the public; and
- changing the way people and the existing justice system deal with conflict.

Effective April 1, 2002, the Mediation Services Branch will operate as the Dispute Resolution Office. While legislated mediation services remain an important part of the Office's services, the name change more accurately reflects the Office's current role in creating an environment that supports the growth of collaborative, interest-based approaches to resolving disputes. An important focus over the last few years has been the provision of services to government departments and agencies in the resolution of public sector disputes that are often complex and involve multiple parties. These services include the design and implementation of strategies to manage the dispute resolution process.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Provide policy, advisory, and training services as well as specific mediation and facilitation services to stimulate the development of restorative justice initiatives at the local level.
- In conjunction with the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and policing agencies, revise and enhance the Victim Offender Mediation training manual.
- Encourage the use of mediation and other collaborative problem-solving methods for youth by working with individuals involved in the education system, including School Boards, teachers, trustees and Saskatchewan Education.
- Provide opportunities for education and practical experience in the field of dispute resolution by:
  - providing mentorship and practicuum opportunities;
  - working with Mediation Saskatchewan to deliver regional conferences; and
  - working with the University of Saskatchewan College of Law, the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology, and the Saskatchewan Police College in the development and delivery of curriculum in the area of dispute resolution.
- Encourage the use of mediation as a means of resolving disputes in family law matters by:
  - assisting Family Law Support Services in the delivery of parent education sessions throughout the province and in designated locations, and in the introduction of a mandatory parent education program on a pilot basis;
  - in conjunction with Family Law Support Services, providing mediation to parties requesting custody and access evaluations, where appropriate;
  - working with Mediation Saskatchewan to help parties locate mediators within their community.
- Promote the use of mediation and other collaborative dispute resolution methods as a means of resolving non-family civil disputes through the delivery of the Civil Mediation program in the judicial centres of Swift Current, Regina, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert. The service will also be offered on a voluntary basis in all other judicial centres in the province. In co-operation with the Canadian Bar Association, the University of Saskatchewan College of Law, and Saskatchewan Continuing Legal Education, the Branch will seek opportunities to assist lawyers in working effectively in these processes.
- Encourage the use of collaborative problem-solving processes, both internal and external to government, by providing technical assistance, training, and direct delivery of dispute resolution services where appropriate.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Continued to work with First Nations, policing organizations, local community justice programs, and the Department's own Community Justice Division, stimulating the development of restorative justice initiatives. In conjunction with the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and the RCMP, approximately 200 community residents, police officers, school officials, and Community Justice Workers received training in Victim Offender Mediation and facilitation. In addition to the core training and mentorship, the branch introduced a "Train the Trainer" (advanced) program helping First Nations mediators to become coaches, facilitators, and trainers in the Victim Offender Mediation field.
- Participated on the Department of Education's Caring and Respective School Reference Committee to assist in the development of a caring and respectful school culture. The branch worked with schools, community members, and Saskatchewan Education officials in the development of Community schools.
- Assisted Mediation Saskatchewan in holding spring and fall conferences in 2001 where dispute resolution practitioners gathered to enhance their skills and discuss current issues and trends in the field of dispute resolution.
- One student completed a dispute resolution practicuum placement with the branch. Arrangements were also made, allowing a number of students enrolled with the University of Saskatchewan College of Law or the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science & Technology Dispute Resolution Diploma Certificate, to participate in mediation sessions. The branch worked closely with the University of Saskatchewan College of Law and the Law Society of Saskatchewan, making presentations at Alternative Dispute Resolution classes held at the College and the Saskatchewan Bar Admissions Course.
- In an effort to encourage the use of mediation as a means of resolving disputes in family law matters, the Branch assisted in the delivery of education sessions for separating and divorcing individuals throughout the province, supported the introduction of a pilot mandatory parent education program in the judicial centres of Saskatoon and Yorkton, and trained a number of lawyers in the practice of Collaborative law.
- Eight hundred and thirty-three non-family civil disputes in the judicial centres of Regina, Swift Current, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert participated in the civil mediation program, assisting over 2,400 people reach resolution to their disputes.
- In an effort to promote the use of collaborative problem-solving and decision-making, both internal and external to government, the branch:
  - provided training or facilitated dispute resolution processes for over 1,500 individuals or organizations, including a broad range of training events and the facilitation of expropriation disputes, human rights complaints, collective bargaining negotiations, farmer/lender, victim/offender and family mediations;
  - provided advice to government and other government-related agencies such as School Boards and Health Boards on the development and implementation of collaborative problem solving and decision making processes; and
  - provided fee-for-service mediation to approximately 100 members of the public in a wide range of disputes.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Help government implement collaborative problem-solving processes including facilitation, mediation, interest-based negotiation, and consensus building in conjunction with or as an alternative to, judicial, administrative, or legislative decision making by:
  - assisting government in assessing current decision making procedures, monitoring legislative or policy amendments relating to decision making and providing technical assistance and dispute resolution services to address public sector issues;
  - providing training in, and delivery of, collaborative problem-solving for government departments, Crown Corporations, and government-related agencies on a fee-for-service basis; and
  - advising government and government-related agencies such as school boards and regional health authorities on the development and implementation of conflict resolution systems and collaborative problem solving processes.
- Provide policy, advisory, and training services as

well as specific mediation and facilitation services to stimulate the development of restorative justice initiatives at the local level.

- In conjunction with the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and policing agencies, develop and deliver training programs that support community justice programs and build a capacity within First Nations communities to train other community members in mediation and facilitation.
- Encourage the use of mediation and other collaborative problem solving methods for youth by working with individuals involved in the education system, including School Boards, teachers, trustees and Saskatchewan Learning.
- Provide opportunities for education and practical experience in the field of dispute resolution by:
  - providing mentorship and practicuum opportunities;
  - working with Mediation Saskatchewan to deliver regional conferences; and
  - working with the University of Saskatchewan College of Law, the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology, and the Saskatchewan Police College in the development and delivery of curriculum in the area of dispute resolution.
- Encouraging the use of mediation as a means of resolving disputes in family law matters by:
  - assisting Family Justice Services in the delivery of parent education sessions throughout the province;
  - in conjunction with Family Justice Services, providing, where appropriate, mediation to parties requesting custody and access evaluations, and working with the Courts, the Judiciary and the legal community to review and enhance family mediation services to those most in need; and
  - working with Mediation Saskatchewan to help parties locate mediators within their community.
- Promote the use of mediation and other collaborative dispute resolution methods as a means of resolving non-family civil disputes through the delivery of the Civil Mediation program in the judicial centres of Swift Current, Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert. The service will also be offered on a voluntary basis in all other judicial centres in the province. The Branch will conduct an evaluation of the non-family civil mediation program seeking opportunities to enhance the program and assist lawyers to work effectively in the process.

Mediation Services Branch Statistics

Clients Served	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
Mediation					
Queen's Bench mediations	905	1649	2331	2376	2426
Other	620	780	758	579	584
Training & Facilitation					
Community & Victim Offender	135	573	492	497	202
Other training & facilitation	1470	1964	1670	1563	1352

LEGAL SERVICES

Saskatchewan Justice provides legal services through the following divisions and branches:

- Civil Law Division;
- Policy, Planning and Evaluation Branch;
- Public Law Division;
- Public Prosecutions Division; and
- Queen's Printer.

This section also includes the Communications and Public Education Branch.

Budget: 16.8 million
FTEs: 227.7

The most important asset of all three legal divisions is the human resource component.

CIVIL LAW DIVISION

Goals and Objectives

The objective of the Civil Law Division is to provide high quality, timely, and cost efficient legal services to client agencies on a day-to-day basis relating to government functions, the administration of government programs, and litigation involving the Crown and its employees. These services are provided primarily through a team of staff lawyers, with additional services obtained through contracts with private law firms throughout Saskatchewan.

The division has a statutory obligation to provide legal services to the Government of Saskatchewan under sections 9 and 10 of *The Department of Justice Act*.

Section 9 provides, in part, that the Minister of Justice shall "see that the administration of public affairs is in accordance with the law" and shall "advise the heads of the several departments of the government upon all matters of law connected with those departments".

Section 10 provides, in part, that the Attorney General "shall regulate and conduct all litigation for or against the Crown or any department in respect of any subject within the authority or jurisdiction of the Legislature".

Activities and Results

The Civil Law Division provides legal services to Government of Saskatchewan departments, agencies, boards and commissions, and several crown corporations. The full range of professional legal services offered by the division is similar to those provided by any large law firm in Saskatchewan including:

- providing general legal advice respecting all aspects of the activities of the government;
- providing legal opinions respecting interpretations of legislative provisions,
- Crown liability as a result of government activities and civil legal problems arising out of government programs;
- acting as counsel in lawsuits on behalf of the Crown;
- on instructions from the Maintenance Enforcement Office, enforcing maintenance orders filed pursuant to *The Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act* on behalf of the claimants;
- acting as counsel to the Department of Social Services with respect to matters under *The Child and Family Services Act* in Regina;
- acting for the Director of the Labour Standards Branch of the Department of Labour to enforce wage claims of employees pursuant to *The Labour Standards Act*;
- negotiating and preparing agreements;
- preparing legal documents such as land transfers, releases, bonds, guarantees, assignments, etc.;
- participating in policy and program development for client agencies;
- assisting in the preparation of drafting instructions, new legislation and amendments to statutes; and
- preparing reports for the Minister of Justice and other members of the Executive Council.

Accountability

The Civil Law Division uses two performance measures to determine whether the Division is reaching its objectives.

All lawyers within the division maintain time sheets on a daily basis for the purpose of recording billable hours for legal services provided to assigned client agencies. These time sheets are summarized on a monthly and calendar year basis.

Lawyers provide annual reports to each client agency receiving 20 per cent or more of a lawyer's billable hours. The annual report provides client agencies with a brief description of the legal services provided during the calendar year and the total allocated billable hours to that client agency. The purpose of the annual report is to obtain feedback from clients on both the quality and quantity of legal services being provided.

POLICY, PLANNING AND EVALUATION BRANCH

The Policy, Planning and Evaluation Branch advises, co-ordinates, and supports the development, implementation, and monitoring of policy, program, research, and evaluation issues which broadly impact Saskatchewan Justice.

The mandate of the Branch includes:

- leading or supporting the involvement of Saskatchewan Justice in intergovernmental and interdepartmental initiatives;
- developing programs;
- reviewing and evaluating programs and policy;
- compiling data and co-ordinating data collection, research, and analysis for the Department;
- providing legal and justice policy advice on matters involving criminal law, youth justice, family law and Aboriginal justice;
- facilitating the development and delivery of information packages and professional training on legal issues and criminal and family law reforms;
- assisting in public consultations on matters as diverse as family and criminal law reform and Aboriginal and youth justice issues; and
- providing advice to strategic planning and performance measurement development.

The client group of the Branch includes other branches of Saskatchewan Justice, federal and provincial/territorial government departments and agencies, other government departments, the research and statistics community, community-based services working with the Department, non-government agencies engaged in justice-related activities such as family violence or community justice programming, justice professionals and individual citizens requiring information and assistance in areas such as international child abduction.

Relevant governing legislation includes:

- *The Department of Justice Act;*
- *The Federal Provincial Agreements Act;*
- *The Government Organization Act;*
- *The Criminal Code;*
- *The Young Offenders Act;*
- *The Children's Law Act;*
- *The International Child Abduction Act;*
- *The Divorce Act;*
- *The Family Maintenance Act;*
- *The Prisons and Reformatories Act;*
- *The Corrections and Conditional Release Act;*
- *The Corrections Act;*
- *The Youth Services Act;*
- *The Charter of Rights and Freedoms;*
- *The Constitution Act; and*
- *The Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Act.*

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Provide quality legal advice in the development and implementation of public policy, particularly in the area of criminal and youth justice law reform, including facilitating the implementation of criminal law reforms in the jurisdiction on youth justice, organized crime, and anti-terrorism.
- Develop and implement major departmental policy and related legislative reforms and program initiatives.
- Support interdepartmental collaboration in areas of shared concern such as family violence, youth justice, crime prevention, child sexual exploitation, child abuse, and Metis and off-reserve strategies.
- Participate in the development of national and provincial strategies on promoting resiliency for children and families experiencing divorce and separation, particularly in the areas of custody and access and child support, including public consultations and child abduction.
- Work within the justice sector and with Aboriginal communities to develop policy, monitor and research Aboriginal justice issues and community-based justice development, and facilitate sharing of information and discussion with Aboriginal and federal partners.
- Enhance the ability of the Branch and the Department to provide meaningful and timely statistical reports and analysis of performance measures, key trends, explanatory information on the workings of the justice system and pressures on the justice system based on statistical analysis and research.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Represented Saskatchewan Justice interests in a variety of national, inter-jurisdictional, and provincial forums dealing with justice and law reform issues, including chairing and co-chairing some of these forums, such as the Interdepartmental Family Violence Committee, Federal Provincial Territorial Family Law Committee, Interdepartmental Metis and Off-Reserve Strategy, FPT Prostitution, Sentencing, High Risk Offenders, Cybercrime and other working groups.
- Provided training and delivered public lectures on law topics including the Bar Course on Young Offenders Law, and facilitated internal training on new criminal legislation.
- Prepared briefings for the Minister and Deputy Minister for session and for FPT Deputy and Minister's Meetings.
- Co-ordinated the analysis and implementation activities related to federal criminal law reforms affecting youth justice, organized crime, anti-terrorism, impaired driving, child pornography, the commercial sexual exploitation of children and criminal procedure reform.
- Conducted significant policy work in the areas of commercial sexual exploitation of children and youth, creation of a national sex offender registry, and review of charging and prosecutions policies in spousal violence cases. This work will continue in the coming year.
- Facilitated public workshops in spring 2001 on the national consultation document "Putting Children First".
- Provided information, analysis, and evaluation support to departmental initiatives such as the Saskatchewan Justice Aboriginal Justice Strategy, Restorative Justice Strategy, including research on Sentencing Circles and Alternative Measures.
- Continued to work with the justice community to improve understanding of effective programming through evaluations of SHOCAP, Pre-Charge Screening Project, and support on Organized Crime strategy.
- Continued to support the Department's participation in the government-wide accountability framework through environmental scan and performance measurement development.
- Represented the department in negotiations on various federal/provincial cost-share or contribution programs on courtworker, legal aid, family law services, and Aboriginal justice.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Facilitate Justice and interdepartmental planning on *Youth Criminal Justice Act* implementation and training.
- Work with the Provincial Court to improve communication on matters of shared concern in the criminal law policy area and to develop rules of court.
- Implement criminal procedure reforms and other new *Criminal Code* provisions including those respecting child pornography.
- Implement remaining components of the department' s policies and programs with respect to the commercial sexual exploitation of children and youth and begin to collect data that will enable assessment.
- Work with other departments to issue a revised provincial Child Abuse Protocol.
- Participate in the national review of charging and prosecution policies on spousal violence.
- Provide required legal and policy advice on proposed federal criminal, youth, and family law reforms and associated funding relationships in areas such as family law services, legal aid, and courtworker agreements.
- Work co-operatively with other departments and agencies to integrate responses across human service areas on key concerns such as family violence, youth justice, crime prevention, Schools Plus, and child sexual exploitation.
- Facilitate the development of national and provincial strategies to support children and families experiencing divorce and separation.
- Continue to work within the justice sector and with Aboriginal communities to monitor and research Aboriginal justice issues and community-based justice development and facilitate sharing of information and discussions with Aboriginal and federal partners.
- Continue to enhance the ability of the Branch and the Department to provide meaningful and timely statistical reports and analysis of performance measures, key trends, and pressures as they affect the justice system and the operations of the Department, the justice sector, or our partners.
- Represent Saskatchewan on Interjurisdictional criminal law forums, including work on sentencing reform, national sex offender registry development, and provide support to national forums on public notification and child sexual exploitation.

PUBLIC LAW DIVISION

The Public Law Division provides policy, technical, and legal advice to Saskatchewan Justice as well as all other government agencies and departments, particularly the Department of Executive Council and the Legislative Instruments Committee of Cabinet in relation to legislation, constitutional issues, and other matters.

The Division has four branches that provide legal and policy advice, legal services, and drafting and publication services with respect to public law, constitutional law, criminal law, trade law, Aboriginal matters, financial issues, and consumer and commercial issues. These four branches are:

- Constitutional Law Branch;
- Legislative Drafting Branch;
- Legislative Services Branch; and
- Queen's Printer.

Constitutional Law Branch

The Constitutional Law Branch provides legal advice on all constitutional matters affecting the Government of Saskatchewan. Lawyers from this Branch represent the Attorney General for Saskatchewan before all courts in the province and the Supreme Court of Canada in both civil and criminal proceedings raising constitutional issues. As well, this Branch provides legal and policy advice on constitutional, Aboriginal, human rights, intergovernmental and international trade law issues. Its function is to ensure that governmental actions and provincial legislation are in accord with the Constitution of Canada.

Governing legislation of the Branch includes:

- *The Constitution of Canada;*
- *The Department of Justice Act*;
- *The Constitutional Questions Act*;
- *The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code*; and
- other relevant federal and provincial laws.

Client groups of the Branch include Executive Council and all government departments, agencies, and Crown Corporations.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Help the government achieve its policy objectives by providing legal advice on constitutional, Aboriginal, human rights, intergovernmental and international trade law issues.
- Provide litigation support to the government in matters raising issues of constitutional, Aboriginal, human rights law and international trade law.
- Ensure that the government's actions and legislation are consistent with the Constitution of Canada.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Provided legal advice to all government departments on questions of constitutional and human rights law and served as legal counsel to government on these matters.
- Reviewed all draft legislation to ensure Saskatchewan laws are in compliance with the Constitution of Canada, which includes the division of powers between the federal and provincial governments and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*; and also with *The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code*.
- Advised the government on constitutional reform issues and on the implications of recent constitutional developments respecting the division of powers and the *Charter*, including the government's response to the decisions of the Supreme Court of Canada in *Re Eurig Estate* respecting the legitimacy of provincial levies, and *M. v. H.* extending benefits to same-sex partnerships.
- Advised government on amendments to various provincial statutes removing distinctions between married and common-law spouses, and appeared on behalf of the Attorney General in a number of court actions resulting from these changes.
- Advised the government on its response to the Report of the Special Committee to Prevent the Abuse and Exploitation of Children Through the Sex Trade, including legislative responses such as amendments to *The Highway Traffic Act* and *The Emergency Protection for Victims of Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Act*.
- Advised government on issues relating to the development of *The Tobacco Control Act*.
- Represented the government before the Supreme Court of Canada in various cases, including *Mackin v. New Brunswick (Minister of Finance); Rice v. New Brunswick (Minister of Finance)*.
- Provided legal and policy advice to government on Aboriginal law issues and represented the Crown in court cases raising Aboriginal and Treaty rights issues, including the on-going lawsuit initiated by the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations challenging the government's decision to remove the tax-exempt status for off-reserve purchases made by First Nations individuals; and filing materials with the Supreme Court of Canada responding to an application for leave to appeal the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal's ruling in *Venne et al. v. Canada and Saskatchewan*, an important Treaty land entitlement case.

- Represented the government, together with the Civil Law Branch, in a series of lawsuits seeking repayment of monies paid to the government for provincial sales tax collected on reserves.
- Provided legal advice to the government respecting on-going self-government negotiations with the Government of Canada, the Meadow Lake Tribal Council, and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, and treaty land entitlement negotiations with the Government of Canada and various Saskatchewan First Nations.
- Provided briefings to governmental officials from various departments on important developments in Aboriginal law such as *Benoit v. Canada (Minister of Finance)* and *Venne et al. v. Canada and Saskatchewan*.
- Provided legal advice to governmental officials negotiating a new tri-partite arrangement respecting gaming and its profits with officials from SIGA (the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Agency) and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations.
- Provided legal and policy advice to government respecting *The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code*, and represented the government in complaints against it.
- Provided extensive legal and policy advice to government on a wide range of issues pertaining to international trade, such as the softwood lumber dispute with the United States, the WTO challenge brought by New Zealand and the United States to Canada's dairy export rules, and Canada's WTO challenge to s.129(c)(1) of the *United States-Uruguay Round Agreements Act*.
- Provided legal and policy advice to government on national trade issues arising from the Social Union Framework Agreement and the labour mobility regulations in the Agreement for Internal Trade.
- Participated in interjurisdictional and intergovernmental fora on various legal issues of mutual concern.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Help the government achieve its policy objectives by providing legal and policy advice on constitutional, Aboriginal, human rights, intergovernmental and international trade law issues.
- Provide litigation support to the government in matters raising issues of constitutional, Aboriginal and human rights law.
- Ensure that the government's actions and legislation are consistent with the Constitution of Canada.

Legislative Drafting

The Legislative Drafting Branch provides a central drafting service for all government departments, boards and agencies and for Crown corporations.

The Branch drafts government bills and regulations on the instructions of the Legislative Instruments Committee. Branch staff serve as advisers to the Legislative Instruments Committee on matters relating to drafting.The Branch prepares bilingual bills and regulations. It is also responsible for printing all government bills and for ensuring that all regulations are printed in *The Saskatchewan Gazette*.

The Legislative Drafting Branch is governed by *The Department of Justice Act*.

Client groups of the Legislative Drafting Branch include Executive Council, Legislative Assembly, and all government departments, agencies and crown corporations.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Produce legislation that is accurate and consistent with the constitution and the general laws of Canada.
- Draft Bills and regulations in a clear, consistent, and timely manner.
- Assist the government in making Acts and regulations readily accessible to the public.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Drafted government bills and regulations based on drafting instructions prepared by government departments and agencies and approved by the Legislative Instruments Committee.
- Attended meetings of the Legislative Instruments Committee and advised on drafting matters.
- Assisted in the Regulatory Reform Initiative by working with Executive Council, Economic and Co-operative Development and other government departments and agencies to identify and repeal unnecessary regulations, revise older regulations and to word new regulations in a clear and understandable manner.
- Revised statutes and regulations when required and oversaw the preparation of bilingual Acts and regulations.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Produce legislation that is accurate and consistent with the constitution and the general laws of Canada.
- Draft Bills and regulations in a clear, consistent and timely manner.
- Assist the Government in making Acts and regulations readily accessible to the public.

Legislative Services Branch

The Legislative Services Branch co-ordinates the development of the Department's annual legislative agenda. It then acts as project manager for the development and implementation of new Acts and regulations.

The Branch acts as the regulatory reform co-ordinator for the Department. It also provides policy advice on the Department's responsibilities relating to consumer affairs and financial institutions regulation.

The Branch serves as counsel to the Legislative Instruments Committee of Cabinet and provides legal advice to Executive Council and the Provincial Secretary. It also provides legal and policy advice to other departments, agencies, and Crown corporations in the preparation of their Acts, regulations, and Orders in Council.

The Branch co-ordinates the appointment of members to the Department's boards and commissions. It participates in a number of public, government, and legal education processes with respect to the legislative development process as well as new legislation or legislation in areas of branch expertise.

The Branch represents the Department on a number of national committees in the areas of private international law, consumer measures, and civil justice issues.

The governing legislation of the Legislative Services Branch is *The Department of Justice Act*.

Client groups of the Branch include Executive Council and all government departments, agencies, and Crown corporations.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Set the department's annual legislative agenda including:
  - incorporating the department's policy initiatives such as dispute resolution, social justice, and Aboriginal justice within the legislative framework, where appropriate; and
  - incorporating the recommendations of legal agencies such as law reform agencies and the Uniform Law Conference of Canada within the legislative framework, where appropriate.
- Develop and encourage community participation in legislation and policy development by consulting as broadly as possible on justice and consumer protection issues of both local and national importance.
- Co-ordinate the Department's ten-year plan for implementing the government's Regulatory Reform Initiative.
- Continue to work with the Legislative Drafting Branch on the preparation and enactment of bilingual Acts and the corresponding regulations.

- Continue to work with other jurisdictions to harmonize the consumer protection measures identified under the Agreement on Internal Trade.
- Chair the Legislation Working Committee on Adult Guardianship and Financial Abuse of Vulnerable Adults, made up of representatives of community groups and government agencies, to develop legislation in response to the recommendations to the Minister of Justice by the Steering Committee on the Abuse of Adults in Vulnerable Circumstances.
- Participate in the development of regulations under the new *Land Titles Act* and *Land Surveys Act*.
- Continue public consultations to develop legislation that reforms the law relating to limitation periods.
- Continue public consultations to develop legislation respecting disclosure of the cost of consumer credit.
- Commence public consultations with respect to charitable fundraising legislation.
- Implement *The Cemeteries Act* and *The Funeral and Cremation Services Act*.
- Implement harmonized standards for prohibited practices for collection agencies in Saskatchewan.
- Implement consumer protection measures in the electronic commerce context.
- Chair the Civil Law Section of the Uniform Law Conference.
- Participate in the work of the Uniform Law Conference of Canada on the development of a *Uniform Personal Property Security Amendment Act* and a *Uniform Creditors' Remedies Act*.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Consulted with Crown counsel in the Constitutional Law Branch and Civil Law Division to ensure that legal principles were incorporated in the legislation and that policy approaches and compliance provisions offered the best and most consistent levels of protection.
- Developed legislation consistent with alternative dispute resolution, social justice, and Aboriginal justice objectives. Here, the Branch developed the corresponding legislative frameworks that would provide a structure for the policy objectives. Examples include:
  - chairing the Legislation Working Committee on Adult Guardianship and Financial Abuse of Vulnerable Adults, which developed a new *Powers of Attorney Act*;
  - participating in the development of new national consumer measures for electronic commerce;
  - developing legislation to regulate charitable fundraising businesses; and
  - developing legislation respecting disclosure of the cost of consumer credit.
- Encouraged local, provincial and national involvement in defining justice/marketplace problems and identifying ways to solve them, including developing greater consistency of the major elements of public protection policy through uniform or harmonized legislation.
- Co-ordinated the Department's 10-year plan for implementing the government's Regulatory Reform Initiative.
- Worked with the Legislative Drafting Branch on the preparation and enactment of bilingual Acts and regulations.
- Participated in the work of committees of the Civil Law Section of the Uniform Law Conference of Canada with respect to enforcement of foreign judgements, creditors remedies, and unclaimed intangible property.
- Chaired the Civil Law Section of the Uniform Law Conference of Canada.
- Implemented legislation to allow professionals to practice through limited liability partnerships and professional corporations.
- Implemented *The Cemeteries Act*, *The Funeral and Cremation Services Act*, *The Class Actions Act* and *The Commercial Liens Act*.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Set the department's annual legislative agenda, including:
  - incorporating the department's policy initiatives such as dispute resolution, social justice, and Aboriginal justice where appropriate; and
  - incorporating the recommendations of legal agencies such as law reform agencies and the Uniform Law Conference of Canada where appropriate.
- Develop and encourage community participation in legislation and policy development by consulting as broadly as possible on justice and consumer protection issues of both local and national importance.
- Co-ordinate the Department's ten-year plan for implementing the government's Regulatory Reform Initiative.
- Continue to work with the Legislative Drafting Branch on the preparation and enactment of bilingual Acts and the corresponding regulations.
- Continue to work with other jurisdictions to harmonize the consumer protection measures identified under the Agreement on Internal Trade.
- Chair the Legislation Working Committee on Adult Guardianship and Financial Abuse of Vulnerable Adults to develop legislation in response to the recommendations to the Minister of Justice by the Steering Committee on the Abuse of Adults in Vulnerable Circumstances.
- Continue public consultations to develop legislation that reforms the law relating to limitation periods.
- Implement consumer protection measures for electronic commerce .
- Implement *The Enforcement of Canadian Judgments Act, 2002*, *The Registered Plan (Retirement Income) Exemption Act*, *The Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act*, *The Powers of Attorney Act, 2002* and *The Charitable Fundraising Businesses Act*.
- Implement harmonized consumer cost of credit disclosure legislation.
- Participate in the work of the Uniform Law Conference of Canada with respect to the development of a *Uniform Personal Property Security Amendment Act* and a *Uniform Creditors Remedies Act*.

QUEEN'S PRINTER

On behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan, the Queen's Printer publishes and distributes all legislation, regulations, and other government legislative publications, including:

- *The Saskatchewan Gazette*;
- Tables to Saskatchewan Statutes and Regulations;
- the Saskatchewan Rules of Court (for the Court of Queen's Bench and the Court of Appeal);
- Private Acts;
- bound annual statutes; and
- the complete set as well as practice-specific sets of the consolidated Statutes of Saskatchewan and Regulations of Saskatchewan.

Under the authority of the Minister of Justice and the Lieutenant Governor in Council, and subject to *The Queen's Printer's Act* and *The Queen's Printer's Fees Regulations*, the Queen's Printer operates as a retail business through a revolving fund, and sells its legislative publications and services to achieve the fund's break-even mandate. The Queen's Printer is largely self-funded through revenue generated from sales, but revenue is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to provide Free Internet access to all publications through Freelaw™ at www.qp.gov.sk.ca.

The main users of paper and electronic publications include:

- oil and gas companies;
- law offices;
- universities;
- federal/provincial/municipal governments; and
- Saskatchewan health and school districts.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Introduce Freelaw™ on October 1, 2001, and maintain the same level of service to former QUESS subscribers.
- Redesign the web site to accommodate the changes because of Freelaw™ by amalgamating the purchase and subscriber portions of the site.
- Undertake a Legislated Forms Online Project, in line with the Government of Saskatchewan's Government Online (GOL) initiative. This project will ensure free access on the Internet to legislated forms that can be filled in online and printed.
- Continue to expand and improve access for all citizens to all Government of Saskatchewan legislation through public training sessions and by partnering with other learning organizations.
- Continue to upgrade the Branch's technology and the web site's search capability to ensure reliable, up-to-date service once free online access is available October 1, 2001, on Freelaw™.
- Continue to ensure paper services are viable, and explore options for new loose-leaf paper services.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- The Department of Justice launched Freelaw™ on the Internet, and an appropriation was received which allowed the fund to maintain its breakeven status.
- The Branch set-up and staffed a demonstration booth or made a presentation to demonstrate Freelaw™ and paper products (loose-leaf publications, bound volumes and pamphlet Acts and regulations) at the following events:
  - April 19-21, 2001 Saskatchewan Libraries Association, Saskatoon;
  - May 29, 2001 Financial Management Institute of Canada, Regina
  - August 17, 2001 Canadian Federation of Law Societies Annual Meeting, Saskatoon;
  - October 17-18, 2001 Regina Chamber of Commerce Business to Business Expo, Regina;
  - November 19-24, 2001 Canadian Western Agribition, Regina;
  - January 29-30, 2002 SUMA Convention, Regina;
  - January 31-February 1, 2002 Canadian Bar Association Mid-winter Meeting, Regina;
  - March 4-6, 2002 SARM Convention, Regina; and
  - March 20-21, 2002 Rural Economic Opportunities Conference, Saskatoon.
- Provided on-site training for Freelaw™ and its e-commerce capability to various government staff, law offices, municipal offices and libraries.
- Continued projects to:
  - consolidate, edit, and add to the web site all remaining in force Private Acts; and
  - add historical legislation to the web site by bound annual volumes dating back to 1905.
- Contributed to the review of and enhancements to the Government of Saskatchewan web site.
- Continued to upgrade digital publishing and print technology (hardware and software) as new technology is proven and becomes necessary to maintain a high level of reliable service.
- Made all legislated forms available online (with some available to be filled in online) and committed to assisting other government agencies and branches to make non-legislated forms available online.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Continue to advertise Freelaw™ at various conferences to increase awareness and access to information, and increase the level of service from the former QUESS system by adding historical legislation to the web site.
- Maintain a dialogue with other Queen's Printers and organizations such as the Federation of Law Societies (CanLII) in order to develop common standards and practices with respect to legislation, copyright, printing, and publishing.
- Redesign the web site to accommodate online forms and historical legislation, and work with the Information Technology Office to ensure consistency of materials.

- Undertake a virtual publications project, in line with the Government Online Initiative (GOL) to ensure easier access to all government publications and to support the establishment of a single access point for citizens on the internet.
- Continue to assist other government departments and agencies in web-enabling their programs or special projects, especially with respect to forms and e-commerce, and promote GOL initiatives at the same time.
- Ensure staff have appropriate job descriptions, technology and training to fulfil the public demand for consolidations and other publications.
- Continue to ensure paper services are viable and updated, and explore options for new loose-leaf paper services.
- Continue to consolidate all legislative products within 10 days of the enactment changing.

Subscription Statistics

Subscriptions to Publication/Service	2000-01	2001-02
Saskatchewan Gazette	510	460
Loose-leaf Statutes	314	295
Loose-leaf Regulations	118	108
QUESS (# of passwords)	1,490	Freelaw*
Separate Chapters	66	67
Bound Volume	136	135
Loose-leaf Mining	31	31
Loose-leaf Oil and Gas	185	185

Queen's Printer Budget

	2001-02 Actual	2000-01 Actual
Revenue	$626,999	$901,669
Expenditures	$246,267	$352,850
Cost of Goods Sold	$380,732	$548,819
Gross Profit/(Loss)	$499,148	$504,106
Administrative Expenditures		
Net Profit (Loss)	$(118,416)	$44,713
GRF Subsidy	$100,000	nil
Net Profit (Loss) After Subsidy	$(18,146)	$44,713

PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS DIVISION

The Public Prosecutions Division acts independently on behalf of the Minister of Justice and Attorney General to represent the interests of the general public in the criminal justice system. The Division administers justice by providing legal advice, assessing criminal investigations and prosecuting where the interest of justice requires. Public Prosecutions is independent of both the police and the courts and although prosecutors do not direct police investigations, they do provide advice and guidance to municipal police forces, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, government departments and other agencies performing investigations.

The Division prosecutes offenses under the *Criminal Code*, the *Young Offenders Act*, and provincial statutes. In addition to the in-court work of prosecuting cases, prosecutors also engage in a variety of professionally related activities. They provide legal advice to law enforcement agencies during investigations. The adult and youth alternative measures diversion programs that serve to remove cases from the court prosecution process where appropriate are based on a prosecutor approval system and each file is first reviewed by a prosecutor before being diverted.

Prosecutors assist in developing and delivering legal education seminars and lectures to their professional colleagues in the provincial Law Society, to the police and other law enforcement agencies, and to the general public. In addition to those duties, they also carry out liaison work with crime victims and public interest groups with a criminal law focus. Prosecutors in the head office also consult locally and nationally on the development of criminal law policy and legislation.

Of all provincial jurisdictions, Saskatchewan has both the highest crime rate, the highest crime clearance rate, and the highest youth and adult criminal court caseload. To cope with these numbers, the Division has 141 full time employees located in 10 regional offices situated across the province with a Head Office in Regina. Because the population of Saskatchewan is widely scattered across a large geographical area, prosecution offices are necessarily widely dispersed as

well. The three offices serving northen Saskatchewan make extensive use of aircraft to access the more remote court points they deal with.

Public Prosecutions Division has an Executive Director, a business administrator, 54 support Staff and two lay traffic prosecutors, and 83 crown prosecutors, seven of which perform administrative functions.

Prosecution offices are located in La Ronge, Meadow Lake, Melfort, Moose Jaw, North Battleford, Prince Albert, Regina, Saskatoon, Swift Current and Yorkton.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Deal with workload increases by the acquisition of additional prosecutors, support staff, and space.
- Continue the successful project in Prince Albert to expand mediation diversion for young offenders by establishing a permanent prosecutorial position and obtaining appropriate facilities.
- Create an on-line information centre for all regional prosecution offices in the province by web-enabling the Prosecutions Automated Data/Document System (PADDS). The main goal is to streamline processes and methods using PADDS to enhance the efficiency and quality of legal services provided by the prosecutors in the Province of Saskatchewan.
- Establish a position in head office to ensure the continuing legal education of all prosecutors in Saskatchewan.
- Begin a three-year plan whereby all aging information technology equipment is replaced.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Budgetary restrictions only allowed for a small increase in prosecutors and support staff. This increase did not address the increasing day to day workload in the Division or the additional demands placed on prosecutors by new legislation.
- The pilot project in Prince Albert to expand mediation diversion for young offenders was successfully implemented. One full time position was filled to provide these services. Due to budgetary constraints, adequate space in the Prince Albert Prosecutions Regional Office was not acquired.
- Funding for the roll-out of the Prosecution Automated Data/Document System (PADDS) was secured through the Government On-Line project. It is targeted as a three year project. In 2001-2002, the application was successfully delivered to prosecution offices in Regina, Saskatoon, and Melfort.
- A Northern Cree Court prosecutor was hired to provide Cree speaking prosecution services in four northern communities. This position is located in the Prince Albert Prosecutions Regional Office.
- A position in head office was established to ensure the continuing legal education of all prosecutors in Saskatchewan. However, workload pressures in the Regina Prosecution District office and budgetary constraints led to the transfer and reassignment of this position from Head Office to a front line prosecutor in the Regina office.
- Budgetary constraints enabled the Division to replace only a small amount of the aged information technology equipment.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- To provide prosecutorial services and absorb the increasing workload within the current staff allocation and existing budget.
- Continue with the second year of the Prosecution Automated Data/Document System (PADDS) roll-out with funding secured through the Government On-Line project. The application is scheduled to be installed in the remaining Public Prosecution Regional offices.
- Prepare for the Implementation of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* in 2003 by providing training for prosecutors and police.
- Assist in the evaluation of the Cree language court project.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC EDUCATION BRANCH

The Communications and Public Education Branch provides strategic communications planning and advice to the Deputy Minister, Minister, and division heads to support the Department's mission, vision, values, and core strategies.

The Communications and Public Education Branch:

- provides information to the media, justice stakeholders and the public;
- advises and supports the planning, creating, delivering and evaluation of information projects and communications materials such as news releases, brochures, annual reports and advertising;
- co-ordinates correspondence for the Minister; and
- provides advice to independent Boards and Commissions for which the Minister of Justice is responsible.

The Branch maintains and builds public awareness and support for justice policies, programs, and services through:

- the development, implementation, and evaluation of communications policies and strategies that support government-wide and Department-specific initiatives;
- the development and implementation of media relations programs;
- the development and maintenance of the Department web site;
- the co-ordination of Department publications;
- the co-ordination, research, and preparation of a wide range of material including: web site articles, speeches, news releases, newsletter articles, and the Department annual report; and
- organizing and executing public events, solely or in conjunction with other government departments and agencies and community-based agencies in the justice system or private sector.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Continue to provide communications support to all areas of the Department.
- Continue to provide media relations services, including advice and co-ordination, to the Department.
- Continue to develop and update the Department's web site and improve navigation.
- Complete development of, and launch, the Canadian Consumer Information Gateway in partnership with Industry Canada.
- Implement the searchable Postal Code location database developed for the Fine Option Program.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Continued to provide communications support services to all areas of the Department.
- Continued to provide media relations services, including advice and co-ordination, to the Department.
- Continued to develop and update the Department's web site including improved navigation of the site.
- Completed development of the Canadian Consumer Information Gateway in partnership with Industry Canada.
- Implemented a searchable Postal Code location database developed for the Fine Option Program.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

As of April 1, 2002, the Communications and Public Education Branch, under a shared services agreement, also began providing communications services to the Department of Corrections and Public Safety.

- Continue to provide communications support to all areas of the Department.
- Continue to provide media relations services, including advice and co-ordination, to the Department.
- Continue to develop and update the Department's web site and improve navigation.

REGISTRY AND REGULATORY SERVICES

Saskatchewan Justice provides registry and regulatory services through four branches;

- Consumer Protection Branch;
- Corporations Branch;
- Pension Benefits Branch; and
- Public Trustee.

Client groups of Registry and Regulatory Services include:

- consumer groups such as debtors, vehicle purchasers, farmers, purchasers from door-to-door salespeople, and customers to financial institutions;
- industry associations, such as insurance, motor dealers, direct sellers, real estate, and funeral services;
- licensees and businesses, non-profit organizations, the legal profession, other government offices, police forces, accountants, credit reporting agencies, lending institutions, law firms, financial institutions, real estate agents, homebuilders, surveyors, municipalities,auction firms, car dealerships, and the general public;
- other government departments, Crown corporations, and boards and commissions such as the Film Classification Board; and
- pension plan administrators and employees in pension programs.

Budget: 6.7 million
FTEs: 99.0

CONSUMER PROTECTION BRANCH

The Consumer Protection Branch coordinates, promotes, develops, implements, and enforces policies and programs for the Government of Saskatchewan related to consumer protection by licensing, inspecting, regulating prescribed businesses, and overseeing regulatory agencies which have been delegated authority.

Client groups of the Consumer Protection Branch include:

- consumers;
- licensees, such as:
  - auctioneers;
  - collection agents;
  - commercial cemeteries;
  - credit reporting companies
  - direct sellers;
  - motor dealers;
  - rural/urban municipality administrators;
  - training course providers;
  - insurance companies;
  - mortgage and loan brokers; and
  - trust and loan companies.
- self-regulatory organizations, such as:
  - Canadian Life and Health Insurance Compensation Corporation;
  - Credit Union Deposit Guarantee Corporation;
  - Funeral and Cremation Services Council;
  - General Insurance Council of Saskatchewan;
  - Hail Insurance Council of Saskatchewan;
  - Life Insurance Council of Saskatchewan;
  - Property and Casualty Insurance Compensation Corporation; and
  - Saskatchewan Real Estate Commission.
- trade associations, such as:
  - Auctioneers Association;
  - Canadian Association of Direct Response Insurers;
  - Canadian Association of Financial Institutions in Insurance;
  - Canadian Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors;

- Canadian Bankers Association;
- Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association;
- Canadian Motor Vehicle Arbitration Plan;
- Charitable Fund Raising organizations;
- Consumers' Association of Canada;
- Credit Union Central of Saskatchewan;
- Direct Sellers Association;
- Independent Financial Brokers of Canada;
- Insurance Brokers' Association of Saskatchewan;
- Insurance Bureau of Canada;
- Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities;
- Saskatchewan Association of Speech Language Pathologists & Audiologists;
- Saskatchewan Genealogical Association;
- Saskatchewan Independent Auto Dealers Association;
- Saskatchewan Motor Dealers Association;
- Saskatchewan New Home Builders Association;
- Saskatchewan New Home Warranty Program;
- Saskatchewan Real Estate Association;
- Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association;
- Trust Companies Association; and
- Western Canada Cemeteries Association.

- other regulators and agencies, such as:
  - Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation;
  - Canadian Council of Insurance Regulators;
  - Canadian Securities Administrators;
  - City Police;
  - Federal and provincial counterparts;
  - Financial Consumer Agency of Canada;
  - Joint Forum of Financial Market Regulators;
  - Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions;
  - Phonebusters;
  - RCMP Commercial Crime; and
  - Saskatchewan Securities Commission.

Governing legislation of the Consumer Protection Branch includes:

- *The Auctioneers Act*;
- *The Cemeteries Act, 1999*;
- *The Collection Agents Act*;
- *The Consumer and Commercial Affairs Act*;
- *The Consumer Protection Act*;
  - Consumer Products Warranties
  - Marketplace Practices
  - Unsolicited Goods and Credit Card
- *The Cost of Credit Disclosure Act*;
- *The Credit Reporting Agencies Act*;
- *The Credit Union Act, 1998*;
- *The Direct Sellers Act*;
- *The Funeral and Cremation Services Act*;
- *The Guarantee Companies Securities Act*;
- *The Mortgage Brokers Act*;
- *The Motor Dealers Act*;
- *The Municipal Hail Insurance Act*;
- *The Real Estate Act*;
- *The Sale of Training Courses Act*;
- *The Saskatchewan Insurance Act*; and
- *The Trust and Loan Corporations Act, 1997*.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Respond to consumer inquiries and complaints.
- Protect consumers by licensing, bonding, auditing and inspecting regulated businesses.
- Increase consumer awareness through partnerships with agencies that hold similar interests.
- Monitor, support and intervene where necessary in the operation of existing industry regulatory bodies.
- Work with interested business and consumer groups to develop new industry regulatory bodies.
- Provide the operational requirements of the Film Classification Board within the ongoing Branch operations.
- Participate in on-going discussions with business, other provinces, and the federal government in legislative harmonization initiatives.

- Continue to consult with stakeholders with respect to financial services legislation amendments.
- Review existing consumer protection legislation and propose appropriate amendments.
- Continue to monitor and assess the British Columbia agreement on film and video classification.
- Support arrangements entered with other government departments to advise the Branch of potential consumer problems observed in the course of delivering programs throughout Saskatchewan.
- Participate in the development of marketplace relations as a core strategy within the Department's strategic plan.
- Implement a consumer communications strategy.
- Work with the credit union system on the development of a code of market practices and a delegation agreement.
- Conduct orientation sessions for the Film Classification Appeal Committee and the Funeral and Cremation Services Council members.
- With respect to legislation:
  - continue work on the review of *The Saskatchewan Insurance Act*;
  - amend *The Consumer Protection Act* to include provisions respecting internet sales and credit card liability;
  - revise prohibited practices provisions within *The Collection Agents Act*;
  - draft regulations and proclaim *The Cemeteries Act, 1999* and *The Funeral and Cremation Services Act*;
  - examine the need for regulation of new home builders;
  - commence drafting a *Charitable Fund Raising Act*; and
  - develop amendments to *The Real Estate Act*.
- Continue to participate in the Canadian Council of Insurance Regulators and the Joint Forum of Financial Market Regulators.
- Participate in consultations with the Pension Benefits Branch and the Saskatchewan Securities Commission with respect to the integration of Saskatchewan financial services regulation.
- Increase the Branch's presence in the community through increased audits and public presentations.
- Initiate licensing of hail adjusters and work with the hail industry to improve the hail claims umpire process.
- Work with the Department of Health in developing new hearing aid legislation.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Informed consumers and businesses regarding marketplace rights and responsibilities by responding to 14,483 inquiries; (15,812 in the previous year).
- Assisted consumers in resolving disputes with businesses by handling 2,628 complaints; (2,487 in the previous year).
- Protected consumers by licensing, bonding, auditing and inspecting regulated businesses:
  - issued 2,462 licenses (2,527 in the previous year) with respect to 11 Acts for a total of 5,209 licenses in force (4,910 in the previous year);
  - conducted 39 (148 in the previous year) audits, inspections, or reviews with respect to six Acts.
  - issued 365 letters of warning (209 in the previous year) to businesses and assisted in the prosecution of one individual (four in the previous year) with respect to three violations (six in the previous year) under *The Direct Sellers Act*;
  - paid $33,661.86 ($70,848.15 in the previous year) to Saskatchewan consumers as a result of four bond forfeitures (six in the previous year). Most licensing statutes require a penal bond to be posted as a condition of licensing, thus, monetary redress is available to consumers to settle outstanding claims or otherwise provide compensation should a consumer be victimized by a seller or a seller go into bankruptcy; and
  - resolved complaints resulting in over $800,000 (over $400,000 in the previous year) being paid to 118 consumers (104 in the previous year).
- Provided administrative and policy support to the Film Classification Board.
- Reviewed and approved bylaws and heard appeals from the Saskatchewan Insurance Councils, the Funeral and Cremation Services Council and the Saskatchewan Real Estate Commission.

- Continued to work with motor dealers, new home builders and travel industry groups on options for regulation.
- Participated with business, other provinces and the federal government in legislative harmonization initiatives.
- As part of the consumer communication's strategy, designed and distributed fridge magnets and posters.
- Monitored the agreement with British Columbia to deliver film and video classification through that province.
- Participated with stakeholders in finalizing the regulations for a new Cemeteries Act, 1999 and The Funeral and Cremation Services Act.
- Proclaimed The Cemeteries Act, 1999 and The Funeral and Cremation Services Act.
- Continued to participate in the Canadian Consumer Information Gateway, a web based consumer information initiative co-ordinated by the Federal Department of Industry and Commerce.
- Continued to participate in CANSHARE.
- Consulted with charitable organizations and charitable fund raising businesses respecting new legislation.
- Consulted with the real estate industry regarding amendments to The Real Estate Act and introduced legislation.
- Completed work with the Department of Health on a new Hearing Aid Act.
- Continued participation in the Canadian Council of Insurance Regulators and the Joint Forum of Financial Market Regulators.
- Continued to work with Credit Union Central of Saskatchewan and Credit Union Deposit Guarantee Corporation in developing a working memorandum.
- Conducted ongoing meetings with the hail industry with respect to licensing of adjusters and improving the hail claims umpire process.
- Conducted an orientation session for new appointees to the Film Classification Appeal Committee and the Funeral and Cremation Services Council.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Respond to consumer inquiries and complaints.
- Protect consumers by licensing, bonding, auditing and inspecting regulated businesses.
- Increase consumer awareness through partnerships with agencies that hold similar interests.
- Monitor, support and intervene where necessary in the operation of existing industry regulatory bodies.
- Work with interested business and consumer groups to develop new industry regulatory bodies.
- Participate in on-going discussions with business, other provinces, and the federal government in legislative harmonization initiatives.
- Review existing consumer protection legislation and propose appropriate amendments.
- Continue to monitor and assess the British Columbia agreement on film and video classification.
- Support arrangements entered with other government departments to advise us of potential consumer problems they observe in the course of delivering their programs.
- Proclaim amendments to and introduce legislation for: *The Real Estate Amendment Act, 2002*; *The Trust and Loan Corporations Act, 1997* and Regulations; *The Saskatchewan Insurance Act*; *The Charitable Fund Raising Business Act*; *The Consumer Protection Amendment Act*.
- Continue to participate in the marketplace relations strategic planning and performance measures initiative.
- Continue to work with the credit union system on the development of a code of market practices and delegation agreement.

- Continue to participate in the Canadian Council of Insurance Regulators and the Joint Forum of Financial Market Regulators.
- Continue to participate with the Branch, Pension Benefits Branch, the Saskatchewan Securities Commission, the Department and stakeholders with respect to the integration of Saskatchewan financial services regulation.
- Continue to look at making presentations to selective consumer audiences and focus audit and investigative resources on areas of risk.
- Conduct a joint consultation process with Municipal Affairs and Housing respecting the need for a mandatory home warranty program.
- Continue to work with the hail insurance industry on licensing and proficiency standards for hail adjusters and improvements to the hail claims umpire process.
- Commence development of a *Motor Dealers Act*.
- Consult on *The Saskatchewan Insurance Act* amendments.
- Consult on amendments to *The Trust and Loan Corporations Act, 1997* and Regulations.

CORPORATIONS BRANCH

The mandate of the Corporations Branch is to coordinate, promote, develop, implement, and enforce policies and programs of the Government of Saskatchewan that relate to the registration and regulation of business corporations, non-profit corporations, co-operatives, credit unions, and other businesses and entities in Saskatchewan. In doing so, the Branch:

- incorporates legal entities under which people can conduct business or non-profit activities;
- maintains a registry of approved names under which business is conducted for the protection of the merchant and to prevent confusion among the public;
- provides information to the public on the existence, location, ownership, and control of entities; and
- enforces registration and compliance requirements.

The client group of the Corporations Branch includes individuals, small businesses, corporations, professional associations, charitable organizations, volunteers, co-operative/credit union members, other government agencies, provincial counterparts; and federal government agencies.

Governing legislation of the Corporations Branch includes:

- *The Business Corporations Act*;
- *The Business Corporations Regulations*;
- *The Business Corporations Act Exemptions Regulations, 1981*;
- *The Business Names Registration Act*;
- *The Business Names Registration Regulations*;
- *The Non-profit Corporations Act, 1995*;
- *The Non-profit Corporations Regulations, 1997*;
- *The Co-operatives Act, 1996*;
- *The Co-operatives Regulations, 1998*;
- *The Credit Union Act, 1995*;
- *The Credit Union Act, 1998*;
- *The Credit Union Regulations, 1999*;
- *The New Generation Co-operatives Act*;
- *The New Generation Co-operatives Regulations*;
- *The Condominium Property Act, 2000*;
- *The Companies Act*;
- *The Companies Winding Up Act*;
- *The Religious Societies Land Act*;
- *The Partnership Act*;
- *The Partnership Amendment Act, 2001* (Limited Liability Partnership Legislation);
- *The Professional Corporations Act*;
- *The Libel and Slander Act*;
- *The Family Farm Credit Act*;
- *The Names of Homes Act*; and
- *The Names of Homes Regulations*.

Corporations Branch Statistics

	2001/02	2000/01	1999/00
New Business Corporations Incorporated and Registered	3,910	3,907	3,688
New Co-operatives Incorporated	23	31	16
New Non-Profit Corporations Incorporated and Registered	391	374	393
New Business Names Registered	4,189	4,603	4,464
Name Availability Searches	15,116	16,631	13,232
Telephone Inquiries	82,876	90,690	92,108
Remote Access Inquiries	156,264	130,408	114,494

	2001/02	2000/01	1999/00
Saskatchewan Business Corporations on Register	38,901	38,485	37,419
Extra-Provincial Business Corporations on Register	8,844	8,783	8,622
Total Business Corporations on Register	47,745	47,268	46,041
Non-Profit Saskatchewan Corporations on Register	6,028	6,005	5,876
Non-Profit Extra-Provincial Corporations on Register	176	168	155
Total Non-Profit Corporations on Register	6,204	6,173	6,031
Total Co-operatives on Register and New Generation Co-ops	1,141	1,230	1,193
Total Credit Unions on Register	121	132	142
Total Business Names on Register	26,553	26,251	25,765

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Continue with the Branch Re-Engineering and Systems Development Project (COBRA) Release 2.
- Prepare material for development of Release 2 of the computer system.
- Integrate the one-stop business registration into COBRA database system that encompasses electronic filing.
- Re-establish the Organizational Planning Committee to continue developing and recommending strategies that consider the needs of all staff in the implementation process of Release 2.
- Implement a Strategic Workforce Plan that identified issues and challenges, and develop a five-year plan of organizational needs.
- Seek greater compliance with the registration requirements of businesses that carry on business in the province.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Completed conceptual design, detailed design, development, and testing of an on-line registration system for business incorporations, business name registrations, annual returns, and notices of change (Release 1.5).
- Prepared and submitted a budget request to complete development of Release 2, including an automated accounting package and a Visa/Mastercard payments system.
- Developed a one-stop registration partnership with Sask Finance for PST licenses.
- Re-established the Organizational Planning Committee to develop strategies to address the needs of all staff in the implementation of Release 1.5 and Release 2.
- Developed a five-year strategic work force plan to address the Branch's organizational needs.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Implement Release 1.5 of the Corporate Registry recent upgrade to enable on-line incorporation of business corporations, registration of business names, filing of annual returns, and notices of change.
- Complete the development of Release 2 of the Corporate Registry System (automated accounting package and a Visa/Mastercard payments system).
- Continue the work of the Organizational Planning Committee to ensure appropriate strategies are in place to address needs of all staff as a result of the implementation of Releases 1.5 and 2.0 of the Corporate Registry System.
- Seek greater compliance with registration requirements for businesses operating in the province through development of more proactive enforcement activities and techniques.
- Maintain a high standard of client service and processing so that Branch services are consistently achieved in a reasonable time frame.

PENSION BENEFITS BRANCH

The Pension Benefits Act, 1992 protects pension plan members on two principles. The accrued pension entitlements of plan members should be safeguarded from undue loss; and plan members should be treated on a fair and equitable basis.

The Act regulates employer-sponsored pension plans with Saskatchewan workers as members. The Act does not apply to certain plans established for employees of the Governments of Saskatchewan and Canada, nor does it apply to plans regulated by the federal government (banks, transportation companies, broadcasting).

The Pension Benefits Branch identifies and manages risks and problems to bolster public confidence in the pension system while allowing the market to develop to meet the retirement needs of Saskatchewan workers and employers.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Protect pension plan members from undue loss by ensuring plans are sufficiently funded, plan benefits comply with the legislated minimum standards, and plans are administered in compliance with the legislation and plan documents.
- Review 50-70 actuarial valuation reports, 400 annual information returns, and 100-200 plan amendments.
- Continue to participate in the Canadian Association of Pension Supervisory Authorities (CAPSA) and Joint Forum initiatives including ongoing harmonization initiatives in:
  - pension plan governance guidelines;
  - regulatory guidelines for electronic communication in the pension industry;
  - principles for and implementation of a CAPSA model pension law;
  - coordinated responses to investment issues arising from the federal investment rules; and
  - work with the Joint Forum of Financial Market Regulators to develop regulatory principles for capital accumulation plans.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- The Branch reviewed 56 actuarial valuation reports. An actuarial valuation measures the financial position of a defined benefit pension plan and recommends prospective contribution rates.
- Defined benefit plan assets of $7.2 billion exceeded their liabilities of $6.3 billion, meaning the system as a whole had a surplus of almost $900 million. Fifty-five of 149 defined benefit plans had an unfunded liability. However, plans with an unfunded liability tended to be smaller. Ninety-four per cent of plan members belonged to a plan with surplus assets. Just four plans accounted for 86 per cent of the $28 million in total unfunded liabilities. The branch monitored those plans closely.
- CAPSA released discussion papers on pension plan governance and electronic communication in the pension industry. After consultation, CAPSA released guidelines on electronic communications but determined that revisions to the governance guidelines were required.

Pension Plan Statistics

Fiscal Year	New Plans Registered	Plan Terminations Reviewed	Annual Information Returns Reviewed	Plan Amendments Registered
1997/98	42	29	366	215
1998/99	29	20	407	235
1999/00	12	15	410	190
2000/01	14	24	399	201
2001/02	17	19	362	281

- CAPSA developed principles for a model pension law.
- CAPSA formed an investment committee and an industry advisory committee to review investment issues arising from federal investment rules.
- The Joint Forum of Financial Market Regulators released a discussion paper on proposed regulatory principles for capital accumulation plans.
- The Branch participated in the preparation of amendments to regulations to remove restrictions on income withdrawals in retirement.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Protect pension plan members from undue loss by ensuring plans are sufficiently funded, plan benefits comply with the legislated minimum standards, and plans are administered in compliance with the legislation and plan documents.
- Review 50-70 actuarial valuation reports, 400 annual information returns, and 100-200 plan amendments.
- Participate in a reorganization of the financial market regulators in Saskatchewan.
- Participate in CAPSA and Joint Forum initiatives including:
  - finalization of pension plan governance guidelines;
  - release of principles for capital accumulation plans and drafting of detailed guidelines; and
  - release of business case for model pension law and principles of the law for public consultation.

PUBLIC TRUSTEE

The mandate of the Public Trustee is to protect vulnerable persons.

The primary functions of the Office are administering the property and finances of adults who are incapable of managing their financial affairs, protecting property rights of children under 18 years of age, and administering the affairs of deceased persons.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Take a leadership role in a review of *The Power of Attorney Act* to be introduced in the spring of 2002.
- Take a leadership role in a review of *The Trustee Act* to be introduced in the spring of 2003.
- Propose, promote, and participate in a review of *The Escheats Act (Unclaimed Assets Act)* to be introduced in the spring of 2004.
- Propose, promote, and participate in a review of *The Devolution of Real Property Act* to be introduced in the spring of 2004.
- Plan for the implementation of *The Public Trustee Amendment Act, 2001* in 2002-2003.
- Develop a program of personal guardianship and develop appropriate policies and procedures for implementation in 2002-2003.
- Develop a program of investigation of allegations of financial abuse and develop appropriate policies and procedures for implementation in 2002-2003.

- Complete the development of the Guardian computer system and implement it in the spring of 2002.
- Implement, wherever practical and reasonable, the recommendations of the Provincial Auditor contained in his spring 2001 report.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- As of March 31, 2002, the Public Trustee provided services in 7,353 cases, including:
  - 1,377 adults;
  - 1,293 adults where the Office may monitor;
  - 2,321 children for whom we hold funds;
  - 1,716 children whose property rights we monitor;
  - 637 estates of deceased persons;
  - 8 estates after 24 months; and
  - 1 Power of Attorney.
- As of March 31, 2002, the Office held assets in trust for clients in the amount of $141,000,000.
- The annualized rate of return realized for clients with money in the common fund was:
  - for the six months ended September 30, 2001, an annualized average rate of 6.80 per cent; and
  - for the six months ended March 31, 2002, an annualized average rate of 7.07 per cent.

  The 5-year average rate of return is 11.73 per cent. The 10-year average rate of return is 11.04 per cent.

  The Public Trustee has moved from allocating interest to its clients every six months to allocating interest monthly.
- Reviewed *The Power of Attorney Act* and introduced a new Act in the spring of 2002 which was passed and given royal assent. The Act will come into force on proclamation.
- Considered the review of *The Trustee Act* but have not yet commenced.
- Proposed the review of *The Escheats Act (Unclaimed Assets Act)* and plan introduction of a replacement Act in the spring of 2003.
- Proclaimed *The Public Trustee Amendment Act, 2001* on May 17, 2002, except for sections 18 and 19, which deal with personal guardianship and the investigation of financial abuse. These sections were not proclaimed because of a lack of financial resources.
- Developed a proposed program for personal guardianship, but financial resources were not available to implement the program.
- Devloped a proposed program for investigation of financial abuse, but financial resources were not available to implement the program.
- Completed development of the Guardian system. Testing will continue in 2002 with planned implementation in the fall of 2002.
- Took steps to implement the recommendation of the Provincial Auditor contained in his spring 2001 report.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Take a leadership role in reviewing *The Escheats Act (Unclaimed Assets Act)* and consider expanding its provision to the concept of unclaimed moneys and assets.
- Propose, promote, and participate in the development of a *Personal Directives Act*.
- Complete the development and implementation of Guardian Version 5.0.
- Introduce a Government On-Line (GOL) project to provide authorized clients or client representatives internet access to their financial information.
- Propose a program for investigation of financial abuse for implementation when financial resources permit.
- Propose a program for personal guardianshipfor implementation when financial resources permit.
- Implement the provisions of *The Public Trustee Amendment Act, 2001*.
- Implement the new *Power of Attorney Act* as it affects the Public Trustee.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

A number of boards, commissions, and agencies appointed and funded by government, but legislated to function independently, report to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

Policy and administrative support are provided to these boards, commissions, and agencies, as required, by various branches of Saskatchewan Justice.

Budget: 16.9 million
FTE's: 76.7

The following boards and commissions produce annual reports independently of Saskatchewan Justice:

- Commission on First Nations and Metis Peoples and Justice Reform;
- Farm Land Security Board;
- Law Foundation of Saskatchewan;
- Public and Private Rights Board;
- Saskatchewan Police Commission;
- Saskatchewan Police Complaints Investigator;
- Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission;
- Saskatchewan Law Reform Commission; and
- Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission.

The annual reports of the following boards and commissions are contained in this section of the Saskatchewan Justice annual report:

- Co-operative Securities Board;
- Farm Tenure Arbitration Board;
- Film Classification Board;
- Provincial Mediation Board/Office of the Rentalsman; and
- Saskatchewan Securities Commission.

CO-OPERATIVE SECURITIES BOARD

The Co-operative Securities Board reviews and approves securities offerings by co-operatives and credit unions under *The Co-operatives Act, 1996*, *The Credit Union Act, 1998*, and *The New Generation Co-operatives Act*.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Continue to review prospectuses filed by co-operatives and credit unions, and provide comments and final approval with appropriate conditions.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Reviewed and approved the two amendments to long form prospectuses.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Continue to review prospectuses filed by co-operatives and credit unions, and provide comments and final approval with appropriate conditions.
- Finalise a disclosure and distribution model for credit unions issuing equity securities to their members.

FARM TENURE ARBITRATION BOARD

The Farm Tenure Arbitration Board arbitrates lease disputes between eligible farmers and lenders with respect to the six-year Farm Land Leaseback Program established pursuant to the provisions of *The Saskatchewan Farm Security Act*. The program commenced on September 20, 1992. The deadline for entry into the program was June 1, 1997.

The Farm Land Leaseback Program assists farmers in financial difficulty by providing a period of secure land tenure to the farmer after title to the farmer's land has been transferred to a lending institution. Security of tenure takes the form of a mandatory leaseback in which the lending institution is required to lease the farm land back to the farmer for a period of up to six years. The program provides farmers in financial difficulty with an opportunity to remain on the land and to contribute to the development of rural Saskatchewan.

The Board has the authority to determine the commercially reasonable rent, terms and conditions of Leaseback Program leases and to address termination and certain leaseback eligibility issues. The Board is also responsible for the administration of the lease and arbitration components of the Leaseback Program. The Collections, Taxes and Leaseback Division of Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food administer the compensation component of the program.

The client group served by the Board includes farmers and farming corporations, chartered banks, credit unions, trust companies, and the provincial government, including Agricultural Credit Corporation and Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food.

The Farm Tenure Arbitration Board's governing legislation includes *The Saskatchewan Farm Security Act, The Farm Land Lease-back Regulations,* and *The Public Inquiries Act.*

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Maintain an effective and efficient means of dispute resolution for Leaseback Program participants by:
  - informally assisting leaseback participants in settling lease disputes without resort to arbitration with the minimum settlement target consisting of 15 per cent of hearing applications;
  - formally assisting leaseback participants through a timely and binding arbitration process with a turnaround time of 45 days or less;
  - minimizing hearing expenses for leaseback participants through location scheduling involving less than 300 km of travel for the parties involved; and
  - monitoring the cost effectiveness of hearings for leaseback participants by tracking the number of hearings involving legal counsel and expert witnesses.
- Maintain participant compliance with leaseback requirements by:
  - monitoring all incoming notice and lease documentation and informing participants of areas of concern within 15 days of receipt of documents; and
  - monitoring the implementation of Board orders to determine whether conditions have been met.
- Implement the next phase of the Board's restructuring plan to accommodate the winding down of the Board and the Leaseback Program.
- Finalize the program evaluation and final report framework for the Leaseback Program and expand the information gathering and consultation process that commenced in fiscal year 1999-2000.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Continued winding down the Board and the lease and arbitration components of the Leaseback Program. Board staff monitored the remaining leases in the program and tracked the disposition of program farm land. Compliance and dispute resolution objectives were met.
- Continued gathering information for the final report and remained available to conduct arbitration hearings.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Maintain an effective and efficient means of dispute resolution for Leaseback Program participants by:
  - informally assisting leaseback participants in settling lease disputes without resort to arbitration;
  - formally assisting leaseback participants through a timely and binding arbitration process with a turnaround time of 45 days or less;
  - minimizing hearing expenses for leaseback participants through location scheduling involving less than 300 km of travel for the parties involved; and
  - monitoring the cost effectiveness of hearings for leaseback participants by tracking the number of hearings involving legal counsel and expert witnesses.
- Maintain participant compliance with leaseback requirements by:
  - monitoring all incoming notice and lease documentation and informing participants of areas of concern within 15 days of receipt of documents; and
  - monitoring the implementation of Board orders to determine whether conditions have been met.
- Continue winding down the Board and the Leaseback Program.
- Proceed with the final phase of the evaluation of the Leaseback Program by analyzing program information and preparing the final report.

FILM CLASSIFICATION BOARD

Film Classification Board members are appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor through an Order-in-Council and report to the Legislature through the Minister of Justice.

The Film Classifcation Board is governed by *The Film and Video Classification Act which* requires that all films (theatrical pictures) intended for public viewing and all video cassettes rented or sold through retail outlets in Saskatchewan, be classified. The classification system is made up of the following categories: General, Parental Guidance, 14A, 18A, Restricted, and Adult.

To assist the public in making informed choices about the maturity and suitability of a film, additional information captions may be used which give a further description of the film's content.

The actual viewing and classification of theatrical films and trailers (promotional clips) is no longer carried out by members of the Saskatchewan Film Classification Board, but the Board does continue to maintain the responsibility for classification by documentation--films that run for a short time in the province's repertory theatres.

The British Columbia Film Classification Office classifies films and videos for Saskatchewan by means of an agreement between the provinces of British Columbia and Saskatchewan that came into effect on October 1, 1997.

From April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002, 171 theatrical films (157 in the previous year) and 171 trailers (292 in the previous year) were classified. As well, 29 films (24 in the previous year) were classified by documentation. 1,317 adult video titles (1,729 in the previous year) were classified and 76 (131 in the previous year) were not approved.

The Film Classification Board maintains the responsibility for registering all businesses engaged in the distribution of film and video material in Saskatchewan.

Film and Video Materials Classified Under
The Film and Video Classification Act

	2001-2002	
Category	Films	Videos
General	17	0
PG	63	0
14A	64	0
18A	26	0
Restricted	1	0
Adult	n/a	1,317
Not Approved	0	76
Documentary	29	n/a
Trailers	171	n/a

PROVINCIAL MEDIATION BOARD AND OFFICE OF THE RENTALSMAN

The Provincial Mediation Board offers assistance to people with personal debt problems by reviewing their financial situation and explaining options to resolve their situation. The Board may arrange repayment plans with creditors and is also involved in arranging repayment plans for property tax arrears and giving advice on residential foreclosure procedures.

Services are available to members of the general public who have been over-loaded with personal debt problems and are at the point of bankruptcy or losing their property.

The Office of the Rentalsman provides information to landlords and tenants about residential tenancy rights and obligations. It adjudicates disputes between landlords and tenants. Residential landlords and tenants may use the dispute resolution services.

Provincial Mediation Board

Governing legislation of the Provincial Mediation Board includes:

- *The Provincial Mediation Board Act*;
- *The Tax Enforcement Act*;
- *The Land Contracts (Actions) Act*;
- *The Agricultural Leaseholds Act*;
- *The Land Titles Act*;
- *The Rural Municipality Act*; and
- *The Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*.

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Increase the number of debt repayment arrangements by 10 per cent.
- Close 40 per cent of debt repayment files because of payment in full.
- Resolve all tax enforcement files that commenced prior to 1996.
- Become involved, through membership in Credit Counselling Canada, in assisting with counselling for student loans before loans are granted and when in collection.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- There was no increase in the number of debt mediation repayment programs established.
- Closed 36 per cent of debt repayment files due to payment in full.
- Forty-seven tax enforcement files that commenced prior to 1996 out of 892 active files still remain open.
- Credit Counselling Canada was not able to finalize an arrangement with Human Resources Development Canada to resolve student loan debts.

2002-2003 Objectives

- Increase debt repayment arrangements by 10 per cent.
- Close 40 per cent of debt repayment files because of payment in full.
- Survey municipalities on the services provided in tax enforcement

	2001/2002	2000/2001	1999/2000
Notices of Mortgage Foreclosure/Cancellation of Agreement for Sale	812	723	619
Tax Enforcement Applications Received	637	664	619
Tax Enforcement files in continuous Mediation	892	855	962
Tax Enforcement Fees	$17,010	$17,760	$19,860
Debt Repayment files Opened	301	302	253
Files Active at Year End	606	525	442
Payments Received from Debtors for Creditors	$1,389,258	$1,164,328	$971,201
Administrative Levy for Province from Debt Mediation	$180,321	$179,155	$ 132,207
Debtor Assistance Files Opened	336	315	274

Office of the Rentalsman

The Office of the Rentalsman is governed by *The Residential Tenancies Act*.

2001-2002 Objectives

- Complete 80 per cent of all cases within 55 days.
- Conduct an internal review of legislation to consider whether a formal review of legislation would be appropriate.
- Establish regular training and review sessions for staff.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Completed 77 per cent of all cases within 55 days of application.
- Conducted an informal internal review of legislation.
- Established a process for semi-annual information/training sessions for hearing officers.

2002-2003 Objectives

- Review the use of mediation to resolve disputes.
- Continue to efficiently process disputes by having 90 per cent of hearings booked within 45 days of application and to have 85 per cent of cases resolved within 55 days of application.
- Canvass whether there is a need to define the role of advocates at hearings and arrange information/ training sessions for advocates for landlords and tenants.

	2001/2002	2000/2001	1999/2000
Total Applications Received	10177	9343	8757
Landlord Applications	9419	8525	7906
Tenant Applications	758	818	851
Number of Security Deposit Applications	6079	5497	5430
Fees	$188,440	$175,000	$164,882
Security Deposit Applications			
Completed within 55 days	4842 (78%)	4103 (71%)	3747 (68%)
Not completed within 55 days	1392	1652	1758
All Other Applications			
Completed within 55 days	2238 (75%)	2086 (76%)	1959 (78%)
Not completed within 55 days	763	653	545

SASKATCHEWAN SECURITIES COMMISSION

The client group of the Securities Commission includes investors, dealers and salespersons who sell securities, companies that issue securities, lawyers, and accountants.

The Saskatchewan Securities Commission is governed by *The Securities Act, 1988.*

2001-2002 Goals and Objectives

- Continue to process applications for registration and exemptions and review prospectuses within established turnaround times.
- Continue to priorize enforcement files to ensure that the most important matters receive appropriate attention and resources.
- Implement permanent registration.
- Streamline registration categories by eliminating outdated and redundant registration categories.
- Develop amendments to *The Securities Act, 1988* to create a civil remedy for misrepresentations by issuers in their continuous disclosure material.
- Develop amendments to the *The Securities Regulations* to implement amendments to *The Securities Amendment Act, 2001.*
- Develop amendments to the *The Securities Commission (Regulations Procedures) Regulations* to allow proposed Commission regulations to be published on the Commission's Web site and to discontinue the Monthly Bulletin.
- Contribute to development of national securities laws by continuing to participate on Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) committees.
- Enhance the web site by adding an Issuer and Registrant search function and a subscription service to send notices of new published documents.
- Develop a Request for Proposal to replace the Securities Management System.
- Develop an office disaster recovery plan.

2001-2002 Activities and Results

- Processed all national prospectus filings and responded to 64 per cent of local prospectuses within established turnaround times.
- Continued to priorize enforcement files to deal with the high number of complaints by properly allocating enforcement branch resources.
- Implemented a permanent registration system.
- Streamlined registration categories by eliminating four outdated and redundant registration categories.
- Implemented amendments to *The Securities Act, 1988* which included:
  - deleting references to delivery by 'prepaid mail' permiting documents to be delivered electronically;
  - provisions allowing the commission to share personal information with other regulatory bodies if necessary for the purposes of the Act;
  - new anti-touting provision; and
  - new regulation-making heads of power which permit the commission to make regulations adopting national instruments.
- Implemented amendments to *The Securities Regulations* to implement amendments to *The Securities Amendment Act, 2001.*
- Implemented amendments to *The Securities Commission (Regulations Procedures) Regulations* to allow proposed Commission regulations to be published on the Commission's Web site and to discontinue the Monthly Bulletin.
- Contributed to the development of national securities laws by participating on the following CSA committees:
  - Mutual Reliance Review System (MRRS) for Prospectuses;
  - Corporate Finance Accountant's Manual;
  - MRRS for Continuous Disclosure;
  - Long Form Prospectus Rule;
  - Mutual Funds;
  - MRRS for Exemptions (includes hold periods and out of jurisdiction offerings);
  - Capital Markets;
  - Capital Pool Companies;
  - Escrow;
  - Distribution Structures;

- Non-employment Relationships;
- National Registration Database;
- NASAA Canadian Zone Registration Examinations and Compliance;
- Executive Directors;
- Integrated Disclosure System;
- Civil Liability for Continuous Disclosure;
- SRO Oversight Steering;
- Legislation Co-ordination;
- Financial Planners and Regulation of Advisers; and
- Enforcement.

- Adopted the following National Instruments as commission regulations:
  - Amended National Instrument 81-101 Mutual Fund Prospectus Disclosure;
  - Amended National Instrument 81-102 Mutual Funds;
  - National Instrument 55-101 Exemption from Insider Trading;
  - National Instrument 33-102 Regulation of Certain Registrant Activity;
  - National Instrument 45-101 Rights Offerings;
  - National Instrument 55-102 System for Electronic Disclosure by Insiders;
  - National Instrument 21-101 Marketplace Operation;
  - National Instrument 23-102 Trading Rules; and
  - National Instrument 45-102 Resale of Securities.

- Adopted the following General Rulings/Orders to avoid repeated applications for the same exemptive relief:
  - GRO 55-801 Implementing National Instrument 55-102;
  - GRO 55-903 Insider Trading;
  - GRO 43-902 Exemption from the Underwriter Registration Requirements;
  - GRO 34-901 - Proficiency Requirements for Salespersons Trading Only in Certain Options;
  - GRO 33-902 - Exemption From Part 4 of Local Instrument 33-502 Requirements for Sale of Certain Securities;
  - GRO 51-904 Curing Issuers' Defaults of Reporting Obligations;
  - GRO 55-802 Order Under Section 6.1 of National Instrument 55-102 SEDI; and
  - GRO 61-901 Exemption From Valuation Requirement In Certain Take-Over Bids.

- Enhanced the Commission's Web site by adding an Issuer and Registrant search function and a subscription service to send notice of new published documents.
- Developed and released a Request for Proposal to replace the Securities Management System and chose a vendor.
- Began developing an office disaster recovery plan.

2002-2003 Goals and Objectives

- Continue to process applications for registration and exemptions, and review of prospectuses within established turnaround times.
- Continue to priorize enforcement files to ensure that the most important matters receive appropriate attention and resources.
- Develop and implement a new Securities Management System.
- Implement the National Registration Database.
- Conduct audit of a selected mutual fund dealer.
- Maintain the Commission web site so that all relevant information is available to the public.
- Deal with implementation issues if a merger with Financial Institutions Branch and Pension Benefits Branch proceeds.
- Develop amendments to *The Securities Act, 1988* and *The Securities Regulations* to implement national securities legislation uniformity projects.
- Develop uniform capital raising exemptions with western provinces.

Core Functions	2001/02	2000/01	1999/00	1998/99	1997/98	1996/97
Initial registration of companies						
New applications	38	27	32	25	36	46
Terminations	24	19	22	15	19	1
Registered at year end	264*	289	281	263	268	254
The number registered at end of year does not equal the opening number plus status changes because there were 39 companies in our database who were counted in the totals last year, but were not in fact registered.						
Initial registration of individuals						
New applications	2821	2287	1755	1559	1797	1356
Terminations	2843	1472	1502	1091	826	576
Registered at year end	7157	7179	6364	5647	4963	4714
Review and issue receipts for selling documents of Saskatchewan issuers						
Renewal prospectus	2	1	0	3	2	0
Regular prospectus	7	6	7	7	10	15
Short form prospectus	2	0	3	5	2	1
Exchange offering prospectus	0	0	1	1	4	3
Amended prospectus	6	4	0	6	2	2
Offering memoranda	6	0	0	0	2	6
Community Bond corporation expression of interest offering memoranda	4	0	0	2	2	7
Issue receipts for selling documents of non-Saskatchewan issuers reviewed in other jurisdictions						
Renewal simplified prospectus	114	101	146	103	97	81
Short form prospectus	175	161	186	162	226	198
Amended prospectus	n/a	n/a	42	103	11	18
Regular prospectus	303	293	225	203	262	267
Receive continuous disclosure documents from companies						
Insider trading reports	692	1166	759	522	1372	1203
Annual financial statements	3409	3135	2248	2523	2274	1777
Interim financial statements	6153	6281	4450	5187	4763	3844
Proxy/information circulars	41	47	46	65	109	905*
Material change reports	55	46	53	47	433	1190*
Annual information forms	916**	890**	1931	2019	1912	1593
Deal with applications for exemption						
Applications granted, approved or filed	1177	1300	1334	1041	831	669
Applications withdrawn	169	193	172	212	73	35
Applications denied	0	0	1	1	1	0
Investigate investor complaints and take enforcement action where necessary						
Filed opened	116	126	117	69	95	91
Filed closed	136	142	112	75	119	105
Obtained agreement and undertaking	3	3	4	2	5	2
Conducted examination under oath	19	17	20	38	45	13
Conducted hearing	1	2	2	3	0	2
Issued investigation order	9	13	13	14	9	11
Issued temporary cease trade order	9	7	7	13	2	10
Issued extending/permanent cease trade order	13	12	11	12	1	9
Issued order removing exemptions	15	13	12	0	1	3

** Includes reports filed by national issuers. ** Excludes Annual Information Forms filed by mutual funds.*

APPENDIX

PERFORMANCE PLAN

PERFORMANCE PLAN

OVERVIEW

The following document forms the basis for the Performance Plan for the Department of Justice in 2002-2003 and beyond.

As a participant in the government-wide accountability project, the Department is committed to evaluating the effectiveness of its programs, and to ensuring that the financial choices made are producing the results the province needs in order to achieve its goals.

As our plan evolves over the next several years, part of that growth will be the addition of performance measures.

The performance plan includes a vision for the future and long-term goals and objectives that will guide the department over the next several years. Attached to each objective are several key actions that the department intends to accomplish in 2002-2003.

The government-wide restructuring has had an impact on the Department of Justice Performance Plan. One major impact was the transfer of Adult Corrections to the new Department of Corrections and Public Safety.

2002-03 BUDGET OVERVIEW

The 2002-2003 budget for the Department of Justice is $184.2 million. This budget funds the programs and services delivered by the Department of Justice and by the independent Boards and Commissions that report to the Minister of Justice. Approximately 75 per cent of the budget is spent on criminal justice services including policing, prosecutions, legal aid, courts, and alternative measures.

The following chart shows the breakdown of estimated department spending.

2002-03 Budget (in thousands of dollars)

Accommodation and Central Services	11,984
Administration	4,235
Boards and Commissions	19,628
Community Justice	93,306
Court Services	33,951
Legal Services	17,273
Marketplace Regulation	3,829
Total	**184,206**

TRENDS AND ISSUES

A number of trends and issues influence our future and the goals and objectives of our performance plan in 2002-2003 and beyond.

Crime Trends

The crime rate is one of the measures of the well-being of Saskatchewan society and drives much of what we do in the criminal justice system.

In 2001, the crime rate in Saskatchewan was 13,458 *Criminal Code* incidents per 100,000 population. This represents a 5.4 per cent increase over the previous year. In comparison, the national crime rate was 7,747 *Criminal Code* incidents per 100,000 population, representing a one per cent increase over the previous year.

While data on victimization patterns suggests that most Saskatchewan residents are about as safe as residents of other provinces, this does not hold true for all groups and communities. Saskatchewan's poorest communities, predominantly in the inner city, on reserve, and in the north, experience the most crime. In addition, a significant amount of violent crime is committed within family and other relationships.

Aboriginal Relations

Aboriginal people experience dramatically higher levels of offending, victimization, and incarceration than non-Aboriginal people. While representing 11 per cent of the provincial population, Aboriginal people represent about 40 per cent of those accused of crime and a similar proportion of those victimized by crime.

Changing Society

The baby-boom generation is aging and the senior population is growing. Indeed, seniors, along with Aboriginal people, constitute the fastest growing population groups in Saskatchewan.

A significant number of Saskatchewan children are experiencing parental separation and are growing up in non-traditional families. The number of Saskatchewan lone-parent families increased by 16 per cent between 1991 and 1996, while the number of common law families rose by 27 per cent.

Broad socio-demographic changes have been accompanied by demands for action to protect vulnerable people and ensure greater equity through services for victims, culturally-sensitive responses to the values and needs of Aboriginal people, measures to prevent and respond to family violence, action to reduce the incidence of sexual exploitation of children, more supports for children and parents experiencing family breakdown, and added protection for vulnerable people like seniors and persons with disabilities.

Globalization of the Marketplace and Changing Models of Regulation

Globalization and trade liberalization have been key factors affecting the Saskatchewan economy. Networks of digital communications, the digitization of information and the restructuring of work are key features of the new economy. In this context, provincial and national borders are becoming less significant. There is pressure to harmonize our legislation with other jurisdictions to simplify regulatory and legal structures at the national and international level.

Federal/Provincial Environment

Justice is a shared responsibility between federal and provincial governments. Although the Province, through the Department of Justice, is responsible for the administration of justice, the federal government bears primary responsibility for criminal law including youth justice and some aspects of family law. As a consequence, federal legislation can and does impose formidable new obligations on the Province.

We are working closely with our federal and provincial partners to address public safety and security issues.

WHERE WE ARE HEADED, WHAT WE INTEND TO DO, AND HOW WE WILL MEASURE PROGRESS

Our Vision

A fair, equitable, and safe society supported by a justice system that is trusted and understood.

Our Mission

To promote safe communities, social and economic order and just relations by:

- providing legal and policy services for government;
- providing mechanisms for resolving differences;
- fostering understanding and ownership of the justice system;
- ensuring appropriate enforcement of the law;
- creating an environment for rehabilitation;
- providing a framework for commercial transactions;
- promoting crime prevention and responding to the needs of victims; and
- working cooperatives to address adverse conditions that bring people into contact with the justice system.

Our Commitments

- Support the Commission on First Nations and Metis Peoples and Justice Reform.
- Respond to the report of the Special Committee to Prevent the Abuse and Exploitation of Children Through the Sex Trade that will better protect children and hold those who exploit them accountable for their actions.
- Participate in the implementation of the National Sex Offender Registry.

GOAL 1 - SAFE COMMUNITIES

PRESERVE PUBLIC ORDER AND PERSONAL SAFETY, REDUCE CRIME, AND PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE.

Objective 1: Hold offenders accountable through effective enforcement and responses to offending and protect the rights of persons in criminal processes.

Saskatchewan citizens want their families, their homes, and their communities to be safe. The Department has a balanced, multi-year criminal justice strategy for building safer communities and overall public confidence in the criminal justice system. This includes initiatives in the areas of law enforcement, victims' services, and crime prevention. This approach recognizes the need for formal justice services and increased emphasis on community-based services including responsibility for local delivery, crime prevention, offender programming, and involvement of victims.

Key Actions for 2002-03

- Fund the Serious Crime Task Force and the Serious Habitual Offender Comprehensive Action Plan (SHOCAP).
- Expand the Serious Crime Units in Estevan, Weyburn, Prince Albert, Moose Jaw, and Regina.
- Fund 26 new police officer positions, including 14 municipal officers and 12 RCMP officers.
- Work with police to develop a strategic plan to respond to organized crime.
- Participate in the implementation and evaluation of the Regina Auto Theft Strategy.
- Support development of community-based policing.
- Evaluate the adult duty counsel pilot projects established in custody court in Regina and Saskatoon.
- Work with the federal government to implement a national sex offender registry.

- Implement videoconferencing in one provincial court location.
- Review interpreter services provided at northern court locations for people who do not understand or speak English.
- Review the Justice of the Peace program in Saskatchewan.
- Work with the Departments of Corrections and Public Safety and Health and other departments to plan for the implementation of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*.

Objective 2: Respond to the needs of victims throughout the criminal justice process

The Department supports timely and appropriate responses to the needs of victims of crime. We believe that these needs can be best met by:

- effectively managing the Victims Fund to maximize funding for programs and services;
- providing basic crisis intervention services in the immediate aftermath of a crime, with a special emphasis on those more vulnerable to victimization (children, victims of violent crime, Aboriginal people, and persons with disabilities);
- providing financial compensation and support services to help victims through the criminal justice process;
- helping victims have a greater voice in the criminal justice process; and
- educating the public and justice professionals about the needs of victims and how to respond in a helpful and compassionate manner.

Key Actions for 2002-03

- Work with 17 police-affiliated victim services and three victim/witness programs to provide services to meet the needs of victims of crime.
- Implement responses to the report of the Special Committee to Prevent the Abuse and Exploitation of Children Through the Sex Trade such as amendments to The Highway Traffic Act that give police the authority to seize and impound vehicles used in the commission of a sex trade offence.
- Fund services to victims of family violence.
- Evaluate police-affiliated victim services programs including conducting a client survey.
- Publish reports on roundtable meetings conducted to gather information on the extent to which victim services programs are meeting the needs of Aboriginal people and people who are older or who have disabilities.

Objective 3: Support effective community engagement in crime prevention and responses to offending

The Department supports a community justice and restorative justice strategy. We believe that the community must participate in dealing with offending and victimization, and that restorative approaches should be used. This approach emphasizes healing and rehabilitation while holding the offender accountable for the harm done to the victim and the community.

Key Actions for 2002-03

- Support community-based programs that provide diversion, crime prevention, and community-based justice programs and enhance community capacity.
- Review the Justice Provincial Crime Prevention Strategy and its funded programs to determine its effectiveness.

GOAL 2 - ABORIGINAL JUSTICE

THE JUSTICE SYSTEM RESPONDS TO THE NEEDS AND VALUES OF ABORIGINAL PEOPLE AND CONTRIBUTES TO A MORE INCLUSIVE SOCIETY.

Objective 4: Increase the participation and confidence of Aboriginal people in the administration of justice

Within Aboriginal communities, there is frustration with the criminal justice system and the lack of progress in developing changes that are responsive to their needs and values. Aboriginal leaders seek a justice system that accounts for cultural distinctiveness and actively involves Aboriginal people and communities in positive ways. The Department supports the need to reform the justice system to better meet the needs of Aboriginal people.

Key Actions for 2002-03

- Make submissions to and fund the Commission on First Nations and Metis Peoples and Justice Reform.
- Participate in discussions with Aboriginal organizations, the federal government, and others, about changes to the justice system.
- Evaluate the process and outcomes of the Northern Cree Court including the impact it has on the justice system and on communities.
- Establish an Elders' advisory committee for the Department.

Objective 5: Reduce the high rates of offending and victimization among Aboriginal people

Aboriginal people experience dramatically higher levels of offending, victimization and incarceration than non-Aboriginal people. They represent 11 per cent of the provincial population and eight per cent of the adult population 18 years of age and older, yet account for about 40 per cent of those accused of crime, and a similar proportion of those victimized by violent crime. The historical impact of colonization, race-based social exclusion, and the disadvantaged circumstances of many Aboriginal people has resulted in lower educational achievement, unemployment, poverty, high rates of substance abuse, family violence, and family and community dysfunction. The justice system, through its objective of providing greater social order, helps to build healthy communities.

Key Actions for 2002-03

- Support Aboriginal programming in the criminal justice system including Northern Cree Court, Aboriginal Court-worker Program, Aboriginal victim services, Aboriginal community justice programs, RCMP First Nations Community Policing Agreements, and the File Hills Agency First Nations Police Service.

GOAL 3: CIVIL AND FAMILY JUSTICE

CONFLICTS ARE RESOLVED IN CONSTRUCTIVE AND TIMELY WAYS, AND THE JUSTICE SYSTEM RESPONDS TO THE NEEDS OF VULNERABLE PEOPLE AND PERSONS INVOLVED IN FAMILY DISPUTES.

Objective 6: Improve access to effective dispute resolution processes

The Department provides dispute resolution mechanisms that resolve civil and family matters in constructive and appropriate ways. A key element of conflict resolution is the meaningful engagement of interested parties. This means making dispute resolution mechanisms available that are not alienating and mystifying and ensuring that the values and interests of both parties are fully understood and fairly considered.

Key Actions for 2002-03

- Evaluate the mandatory civil mediation program operating in the Court of Queen's Bench.
- Strengthen the role of Small Claims Court in resolving civil disputes.
- Expand the use of digital recording in the Courts.
- Strengthen French language court services.

Objective 7: Improve access to support services that promote resilient children and families

The Department provides family justice services that include assistance in the enforcement of maintenance payments, provision of legal aid in family law matters to low-income persons, parent education programs for separating or divorcing parents, programs for victims of family violence, custody and access assessments, and supervised access and exchange. Effective April 1, 2002, the Department will centralize many of these services into one unit-the Family Justice Services Branch-in order to better assist parents and children and the court system to deal with the difficulties of family breakdown and separation in the healthiest way possible. The new branch will provide a more integrated and streamlined service to the public.

Key Actions for 2002-03

- Implement a pilot project to help low-income persons vary child maintenance orders and agreements where required.
- Implement a pilot project with the Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission and the Department of Social Services to improve legal aid and maintenance enforcement services for custodial parents on social assistance.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the parent education programs established to help parents and children deal with the difficulties of family breakdown.
- Introduce and implement *The Inter-jurisdictional Support Orders Act* to streamline the process for obtaining, changing, and enforcing support orders.
- Introduce and implement *The Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Amendment Act* to allow the Maintenance Enforcement Office to help families obtain maintenance payments from parents who try to avoid making payments.

Objective 8: Protect the interests of children and adults who are unable to manage their own affairs

The Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee protects persons in vulnerable circumstances. This includes protecting the interests of children under 18, administering the estates of persons who are incapable of managing their own affairs, and administering the estates of deceased persons. When the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee becomes involved in the administration of the financial affairs of a person or an estate, it conducts an investigation, determines assets, collects assets, pays debts, pays monthly support, pays other expenses, and distributes assets.

Key Actions for 2002-03

- Introduce and implement *The Powers of Attorney Act, 2002*, to protect people who give another person decision-making authority over their financial affairs through power of attorney.
- Complete the implementation of the Public Guardian and Trustee "Guardian" computer system and related financial controls over client assets managed by the Public Guardian and Trustee.
- Implement provisions of *The Public Trustee Amendment Act, 2001* and amendments to the Regulations under that Act that relate to the Office carrying out its duties.
- Provide authorized Public Guardian and Trustee clients and their representatives internet access to their financial information.

GOAL 4: MARKETPLACE RELATIONS

A FAIR AND EFFICIENT MARKETPLACE

Objective 9: Safeguard consumer and public interests and support economic well-being through responsive marketplace regulation

The marketplace is dynamic. Technological innovation is changing the nature of economic activity. Consumers are buying goods and services in forms and in ways not contemplated a decade ago. Businesses are evolving. In addition, succeeding in global markets increasingly requires governments to take into account what is happening in other jurisdictions and, more particularly, the impact of regulation on the ability of local firms and workers to compete. To remain effective, regulators must be able to adapt, and regulations and regulatory structures and processes must be reviewed on an ongoing basis to ensure they promote economic and social well-being. Care must be taken to ensure that regulatory structures and processes do not impose unnecessary costs on business or government.

Key Actions for 2002-03

- Establish the Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission which will serve as a single financial services sector regulatory body in areas of provincial jurisdiction.
- Support the creation of a comprehensive framework of harmonized, commercial law for Canada.
- Reform legislation on cost of credit disclosure.
- Enhance the functionality of the Corporations Branch corporate registry computer system for users who access the system through the internet.
- Amend *The Consumer Protection Act* to provide protection to people who buy goods and services on the internet.

GOAL 5: LEGAL SERVICES

UPHOLD THE RULE OF LAW AND PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES THAT MEET PUBLIC NEEDS

Objective 10: Provide quality legal and policy advice to government and effective representation in litigation and other dispute resolution processes

The Department is committed in all of its operations to the rule of law. In general terms, this means that government itself is subject to the law and must operate according to its terms. The Department carries out the traditional role of the Attorney General in maintaining the rule of law and seeing that the administration of public affairs is in accordance with the law.

One important aspect of this role is the provision of legal and policy advice and services to government, including the Cabinet Committee on Legislative Instruments, and to government departments and agencies. The Department's Dispute Resolution Office also provides government departments and agencies with advice on dispute resolution processes and assistance in resolving public sector disputes.

Although a relatively small proportion of the staff and resources of the Department are devoted to providing these legal, policy, and dispute resolution services, the proper discharge of these functions is critical to the effective functioning of the justice system and to ensuring that public affairs are conducted according to law.

Key Actions for 2002-03

- Provide legal and policy advice and services to Government.
- Support the resolution of public sector disputes.
- Develop performance measurement standards for the legal services divisions.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions or comments about the plan, or would like additional copies, we invite you to call:

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